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Interior says alien registration is federal—not CNMI—function

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Anthony Babauta and CNMI Deputy Labor Secretary Jacinta M. Kaipat have taken jabs at each other's assertion of federal and local authority over alien registration and related issues, in recent separate letters addressed to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Babauta said the U.S. Department of the Interior has significant concerns about many aspects of CNMI Public Law 17-1 and its accompanying regulations.

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11 DAYS
left before the start of the new fiscal year

INSIDE

Final Test
A pressure test on the blown-out BP well in the Gulf of Mexico was set to be finished early Sunday, the last step needed before the runway well can finally be declared dead.

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Pope at UK
Pope Benedict XVI wraps up his visit to Britain with the beatification Sunday of Cardinal John Henry Newman.

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Truth Tweet
Lindsay Lohan has confirmed on her Twitter page that she failed a court-ordered drug and alcohol screening.

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'We haven't reached the bottom yet'

'With the fever being generated by the Marine buildup, hopefully that will offset or more than offset our anticipated deficit in 2011. We are hoping that people will come here in advance, ahead of the buildup, to start preparing for servicing military projects in 2010'

—Gov. Benigno R. Fitial

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said on Saturday that the CNMI economy has not hit rock bottom yet, but sees bright prospects related to light industries and military economy especially if and when Pagan is used as a training area.

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HAIL TO THE CHIEF
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Father Rey D. Rosal of San Vicente Church holds Mass during the annual commemoration rites for Chief Aghurubw, whose statue is seen in the background, on Managaha Island on Saturday. Inset shows children and adults falling in line for food after the Mass.

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FBI apprehends DPW official for alleged bribery

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Federal Bureau of Investigation busted on Friday an official of the Department of Public Works for allegedly taking bribes, according to a reliable source.

The source, who requested anonymity, disclosed that the FBI agents picked up Tom S. Salas, a building code inspector

See FBI on Page 4

Work hour cuts still a point of contention

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Six lawmakers who are trying to break the deadlock between the House of Representatives and Senate on the Fiscal Year 2011 budget bill have yet to decide whether to cut government work hours by 16 or eight per pay period.

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CHC now 95% in compliance with Medicare standards. PAGE 3
People 'tired of being victimized,' join Neighborhood Watch Task Force. PAGE 6

Local

Live the Fiesta Way!
What's cooking this week at Chambre BAR
Healthy Menu
Main Course
MONDAY- Pork Stew
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Community pays tribute to Chief Aghurubw

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Hundreds of Carolinians and other community members cruised their way to Managaha last Saturday to pay respect to Carolinian leader Chief Aghurubw.

The commemoration of the Satawal chieftain who led the people out of the typhoon-ravaged Caroline islands with Chief Nguschul to resettle on Saipan was observed with a mass officiated by Fr. Rey D. Rosal.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro, and Carolinian Affairs Office Executive Assistant Angie Iginoef-Mangarero were among the Carolinians who took part in the celebration.

After the mass, a feast of local food was served to all guests.

Chief Aghurubw Foundation president Kodep Ogumoro-Uludong said this year's celebration was an 'important occasion' as it focused on strengthening relationships among the 14 family branches that are part of the Ghatoliyool clan.

"It's very exciting that a lot of families came out here. We are really reaching out to our roots. It's a huge turnout," Uludong said after the mass.

Uludong said the ferries did four trips going to Managaha Saturday morning, carrying about 150 passengers each trip.

According to Uludong, several members of the clan from Rota also joined in Saturday's celebration.

Saturday marked the 40th year since the first monument for the great Carolinian leader and navigator was put up on what used to be sacred land, he said.

Uludong recognized the involvement that spans generations of families in making sure that the great Carolinian chief continues to be remembered through the years.

Uludong also acknowledged his grandfather, 84-year-old Daniel Ogumoro, who is a member of one of the 14 branches of the Ghatoliyool clan and was able to attend the celebration.

He said the Chief Aghurubw celebration is "definitely not fading," adding that the annual celebration is "getting more energized" with the participation of the younger generations who keep the memory of the great Carolinian chief alive up to this day.

Uludong thanked all sponsors and donors for this year's celebration, including Dave Igitol and Frank Murukami of Tasi Tours; Steve Nutting and Jack McClure of Pacific Subsea; Tony and Aileen Pellegrino of Saipan Sea Ventures and Saipan Ice; Juan Pan Guerrero of Herman's Bakery; and Angie Mangarero of the Carolinian Affairs Office who assisted them in organizing this year's mass.

Covenant's Camacho confirms attendance in CRA forum

Covenant Party standard-bearer Joseph Camacho confirmed yesterday his participation in the upcoming special forum organized by the Commonwealth Retirees Association.

With the confirmation, CRA now has all four candidates for the Nov. 2 polls for U.S. delegate booked in the forum set for Oct. 12 at Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

Republican Party candidate Juan N. Babauta, Democratic Party bet Jesus Borja, and independent candidate and incumbent U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan earlier agreed to take part in the forum.

"I am grateful to the Commonwealth Retiree Association for providing all U.S. delegate candidates with a meaningful opportunity to address important government pension issues," said Camacho. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

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CHC now 95% in compliance with Medicare standards

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health Center is now 95 percent in compliance with all the standards and requirements of Medicare, according to public health acting deputy secretary for hospital administration Esther Muna.

The hospital official admitted that despite this positive development, they are not resting in their laurels and are working hard to make the hospital 100 percent compliant.

"But we're always ready… and I can say that we're at 95 percent compliance at present," Muna told *Saipan Tribune*.

It was in January 2010 when the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services conducted a complaint investigation survey at the hospital the findings of which uncovered serious deficiencies at CHC.

Muna last Friday expressed confidence on Medicare's positive response once a re-survey is conducted.

Medicare earlier warned the hospital that noncompliance with its standards would result to termination of its accreditation and CHC disqualified from receiving reimbursement rendered to Medicare patients.

Saipan Tribune learned that DPH's Medicare reimbursement for various services run to as much as $10 million a year.

Hospital officials earlier said that the violations of the Medicare standards and requirements are directly tied to the present financial situation of the CNMI.

These "violations" cover deficiencies in six areas including the governing body, quality assessment and performance improvement, medical staff, nursing services, radiologic services, and infection control.

CHC submitted its corrective plans to Medicare concerns last May 6 and it was initially described as "sufficient and acceptable."

The action plan is expected for validation anytime soon.

Muna disclosed that CHC noted a lot of improvements in quality management which was among the major concerns of Medicare. Qualified individuals were hired on key positions cited by the team.

Saipan Tribune also learned that the hospital also developed and implemented quality management plan policy and procedures which helped in the proper tracking and monitoring of quality indicators in the hospital operation.

Federal court excuses 2 survivors of plane crash from attending hearing

» Japanese survivor says she now fears airplanes

The federal court has excused one of the survivors in the 2006 plane crash on Saipan from attending personally at the settlement conference in her lawsuit as she is currently working in Japan and claimed being fearful of flying in an airplane.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting Judge Philip M. Pro granted plaintiff Yoko Kamiyama's request to be excused from personally participating in today's (Monday) scheduled settlement conference.

Pro also granted the same request from another survivor—Patrick James Timmerman—from personally appearing at the conference. Timmerman is currently living in West Virginia.

Attorney Bruce Berline, counsel for Kamiyama, declared that it is prohibitively expensive for Kamiyama to travel from Japan to Saipan in terms of both money and missing work.

Berline further stated that Kamiyama is fearful of flying in an airplane.

The lawyer said his client, however, will be available via telephone and that he will have full settlement authority on her behalf.

Attorney William M. Fitzgerald, counsel for Timmerman, said it would be prohibitively expensive for Timmerman, his wife, and son to travel from West Virginia to Saipan to attend the scheduled settlement conference.

Fitzgerald, however, stated that Timmerman and his family will be available to participate in the discussions via telephone if the court agrees.

Kamiyama and Timmerman were among the seven passengers on a Piper Cherokee aircraft that were injured when the plane crashed on a farm in Upper Dandan while en route to Tinian on Aug. 11, 2006.

The airplane crashed into a farm, bursting into flames and destroying the plane. Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino reportedly leased the plane at the time.

Timmerman, also a licensed pilot then employed by Tinian Dynasty, was seated next to pilot Brent J. Hinkemeyer.

The federal court dismissed in February 2010 the lawsuits filed by two other survivors—Tomoyuki Nagata and Dr. Jun Takimoto—after Tinian Dynasty settled the case. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Military to conduct training on FDM, Warning Area-517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The military will conduct training on Farallon de Medinilla on Sept. 22-27 from 5am to 11pm and Sept. 28 from 12pm to 6p.m, and on Warning Area-517 on Sept. 22 from 8am to 2pm.

The general public especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear from these areas during the times and date indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. ***(PR)***

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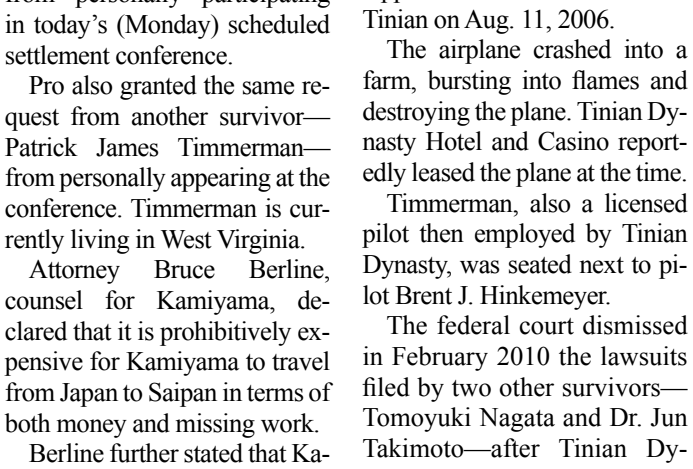

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Deadline for retroactive stop loss pay is Oct. 21

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan is reminding service members, whose tour of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan was extended under stop loss orders, that they have until Oct. 21, 2010 to apply for retroactive pay. Eligible troops will receive $500 a month for each month their service was extended. The average benefit is $3,700.

"Our brave men and women have made great sacrifices serving our country. They have earned this pay," Congressman Sablan said.

"I urge all eligible active duty, reservists, veterans and beneficiaries of service members to submit a claim."

In 2009, Congress passed H.R. 2346, the War Supplemental Appropriations Act, which established the retroactive stop loss special pay. This benefit allows those whose service was involuntarily extended between September 11, 2001 and September 30, 2009 to file a claim to receive the retroactive pay. They must meet all other eligibility requirements, such as honorable discharge.

The Defense Department estimates that over 145,000 troops are eligible; but only 58,000 claims have been paid out so far. ***(PR)***

WORK HOUR

From Page 1

Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), chair of the conference committee, said they are still waiting for latest Department of Finance data showing comparison of government spending cuts if the budget bill adopts 16 hours or eight hours of cuts.

The House and the Fitial administration said cutting work hours from 80 to 64 hours per pay period will help balance the budget, while the Senate wants work hours to be at 72 per pay period.

Despite the impasse, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said on Saturday that he has "faith in the Legislature, that they will be able to pass a budget" to avoid government shutdown.

"Like I said before, we need a balanced budget. My budget submission is a balanced one, and already incorporates 16-hour cuts and unpaid holidays," Fitial said.

Resource available for government operations in FY 2011 is $132 million, down from the current $137 million and from over $200 million a few years back as the economy continues to decline.

Without a balanced budget passed before the start of FY 2011 on Oct. 1, the government will be forced to shut down except for essential service agencies and lawmakers will not receive their salaries, due to constitutional amendments last year.

So far, the conference committee has agreed to cap the annual discretionary allowance of lawmakers to $86,000 a year, instead of raising it to $130,000 a year as the House earlier proposed.

Basa and Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) said the conference committee also agreed in principle to give the Public School System and Northern Marianas College funding enough to meet the maintenance-of-efforts requirements between the CNMI governor and the U.S. Department of Education.

Basa and Hofschneider said based on a 2009 audit, the percentage funding for NMC to meet the MOE went down from 3.94 percent of the general fund to 3.367 percent of $132 million.

The two lawmakers said the MOE percentage for PSS, meanwhile, went up based on the same audit, or from 22.73 percent to 23.49 percent.

"Nothing is final yet and we are still debating but we all agree we should make sure PSS and NMC meet the MOE requirements because we do not want to lose federal funds," Basa said.

Hofschneider and Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), chair of the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, said the conference committee "is making progress."

The committee will meet again today.

Basa, Hofschneider, and Taimanao said if they get the needed data from Finance today, they may be able to decide on the work hour cuts and finalize the budget bill. The full House and Senate memberships should also pass the budget bill, before reaching the governor's desk.

INTERIOR

From Page 1

Among other things, he said that alien registration is a function of the federal—not territorial—government.

"Simply put, the registration of aliens, employer sanctions for hiring unauthorized aliens, employment eligibility verification, and alien work authorization are immigration functions, and these functions are now federal rather than territorial," Babauta told Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Douglas A. Brennan in a Sept. 9 letter.

Kaipat also wrote Brennan a Sept. 14 letter purportedly to assist Saipan Chamber of Commerce members "in evaluating the information contained" in Babauta's letter.

The Chamber of Commerce is the largest business group in the CNMI with some 150 members.

Kaipat said the CNMI Department of Labor disagrees with central aspects of Babauta's letter, including the issues on umbrella permits, and open market.

'Fraud'

Kaipat said there is no requirement for any endorsement from the federal government with respect to P.L. 17-1 and the regulations that the CNMI Department of Labor issued pursuant to that law, just as there is no requirement for any endorsement from the federal government with respect to any state law.

"P.L. 17-1 has been in force since March 2010 and, to my knowledge, no court challenge has been begun by any federal agency. So PL 17-1 is a valid Commonwealth law binding on Commonwealth employers and residents," Kaipat told Brennan.

Kaipat said "registration of aliens is required by federal law."

But she said "in the Commonwealth, federal agencies have declined to register aliens, except the ad hoc registration attempted by the ombudsman's office that was, we believe, marred by substantial fraud."

The U.S. Labor Ombudsman's Office held a registration of aliens in December 2009 in connection with an Interior report to the U.S. Congress on the immigration status of foreign workers in the CNMI.

P.L. 17-1, which Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed in March this year, requires registration of aliens.

CNMI Labor's alien registration began on Sept. 7 and wraps up on Nov. 30, 2010.

"Registration of aliens is needed, as Congress recognized, and the Commonwealth is simply doing for itself what the federal government would otherwise have done. Registration is free and, as our very limited resources permit, we will implement registration online in the future," Kaipat told Brennan.

Babauta said local laws within the jurisdiction of the CNMI to enact and enforce should be respected and obeyed.

"However, the federal government does not endorse any provision of Public Law 17-1 or its implementing regulations, and is not in a position to make any representation that a CNMI employer or any other person would, by complying with them, establish any defense against any violation of federal civil rights laws or other applicable laws, to the extent they might apply," he added.

'Not a legal opinion'

Kaipat, in her five-page letter, said Babauta's letter does not state that he has consulted with the Interior Department's Solicitor's Office, "and it appears that his advice is not a legal opinion of the Interior Department."

Babauta said in responding to the Chamber's letter, he consulted closely with the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

This is because although the issues that the Chamber raised are relevant to the central role of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs with respect to federal programs and policy toward the CNMI, the questions relate primarily to laws directly administered and enforced by DOJ and DHS.

Federalization

Brennan wrote Babauta letters in April and June, raising concerns on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce regarding certain aspects of immigration federalization under Public Law 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act signed in May 2008.

The CNRA placed CNMI immigration under federal control on Nov. 28, 2009.

Brennan's letter addresses two significant questions. The first one is the ability of aliens holding an employment-based immigration status or the grandfather provision of the CNRA for a continuing work authorization based upon CNMI immigration status as of the transition date.

The second one is the relationship between federal laws concerning immigration and civil rights and CNMI territorial law, especially the requirements of CNMI P.L. 17-1 and its implementing regulations.

Babauta referred the Chamber to the "Questions and Answers" on employment authorization and verification in the CNMI that the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services posted on its website in March.

On umbrella permits

Babauta said the federal government recognizes validly issued umbrella permits issued prior to the transition program effective date.

"The federal government does not, however, require employers seeking to hire employees after the transition program effective date to comply with the immigration-related provisions of Public Law 17-1, its implementing regulations, or any other CNMI law regulating immigration," he said.

Kaipat said umbrella permits that the CNMI government issued extend to Nov. 27, 2011, only if the permit is not revoked by the CNMI prior to that time.

"The federal government has no authority to keep fraudulently obtained umbrella permits in force," she said.

She added that the issuance of the umbrella permits was the CNMI government's initiative to avoid chaos that would have resulted from the lack of a timely implementation after May 2008 when PL 110-229 was passed, of any federal permit system.

Kaipat pointed out that 28 months after the enactment of PL 110-229, DHS has yet to issue regulations.

Open market

Babauta said unlike H-1B and other employer-specific nonimmigrant under the INA, who cannot accept any employment unless they are the beneficiary of an employer's petition for that specific employment, umbrella permit holders have "open market" work authorization until Nov. 27, 2011.

"This means that they may accept any lawful employment offered to them by any CNMI employer," he said.

But Kaipat said there is no open market for umbrella permit holders.

"An umbrella permit only authorizes the holder to remain in the Commonwealth. It does not authorize employment," she said.

FBI

From Page 1

with DPW, after a complaint was filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley confirmed yesterday to *Saipan Tribune* that the FBI indeed arrested Salas after a complaint was filed charging him with one count of extortion under color of official right.

O'Malley refused to answer questions as to who gave the bribes, how much money was involved, and other details about the incident.

The prosecutor, however, stated that Salas' initial court appearance will be today, Monday.

"We'll have more details for you then," he said.

Another source disclosed that the agents caught the alleged bribery on video.

DPW's Building Safety Division is headed by a building safety official, who is charged with enforcing the provisions of the building safety code.

Another DPW official is currently facing separate criminal charges in the Superior Court.

On Thursday, the Office of the Attorney General filed four charges against DPW Technical Services Division director Joseph M. Inos Jr. on allegations he sexually assaulted a trainee of the Workforce Investment Agency.

The OAG charged Inos with assault and battery, disturbing the peace, misconduct in public office, and false arrest.

WE HAVEN'T

From Page 1

Fitial, who was on Managaha Island Saturday for the annual commemoration rites for Chief Aghurubuw, said his administration is also committed to making sure the Marianas Visitors Authority will be able to implement its $6.2-million airline incentives program.

With the demise of the garment industry in 2009, the CNMI is left with only its tourism industry that has seen drastic drop in arrivals including when Japan Airlines pulled out of the islands.

Before Fitial's first term in office in 2005, government budget was at $216 million, before going down to $213 million.

From that point on, the budget dropped steadily until it reached only $148 million in Fiscal Year 2010. This was revised further to just $137 million early this year. By FY 2011, projected revenue is only $132 million.

"We haven't reached the bottom yet but we hope that with the fever being generated by the Marine buildup, hopefully that will offset or more than offset our anticipated deficit in 2011. We are hoping that people will come here in advance, ahead of the buildup, to start preparing for servicing military projects in 2010," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, in a separate interview, had said that the $132 million available for government operations in 2011 could still go down, depending on cash collection and the implementation of austerity measures.

Fitial said a lack of federal regulations governing foreign investors, foreign workers and foreign students almost a year after the federal government took over local immigration is causing uncertainty among investors that would have otherwise set up or expand their businesses in the CNMI.

Douglas Brennan, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and other businesses and government officials have also expressed on many occasions the businesses' frustration with the absence of these regulations from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The governor said despite immigration concerns and financial crisis, he sees "light at the end of the tunnel," especially from military economy and light industries such as renewable energy manufacturing and investments in the CNMI.

Fitial said the U.S. Marines expressed strong desire to use Pagan as training site, especially for amphibious training. Federal agencies have been surveying Pagan's land and marine resources in connection with the island's possible use for military training. He said should the military succeed in using Pagan for its training, the CNMI could benefit from land leases, among other things.

"These are all preliminary information. Everything will depend on an environmental impact statement," Fitial told *Saipan Tribune*.

As to the Guam-CNMI military buildup, Fitial said the military remains steadfast in its plan to put up four live-fire training ranges on Tinian.

"I trust that what they're been telling me all along will be confirmed when the Record of Decision is out," he said.

Fitial will be meeting on Wednesday with Maj. Gen. David Bice, executive director of the Joint Guam Program Office, about the Record of Decision.

The governor also said that the CNMI continues to encourage foreign investors to put up their business here and take advantage of the Headnote 3(a), a privilege under the Covenant that allows CNMI duty-free export to the U.S.

Buckingham says new team dramatically strengthened AG's performance

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General's Criminal Division has a team of young lawyers who are mostly new to the island but Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham is impressed, saying they have dramatically strengthened the prosecution's performance.

"I looked to hire attorneys who are bright, hardworking and ethical. They will gain experience. I am very pleased and proud of their work and we are seeing real results," Buckingham told *Saipan Tribune* Thursday.

Chief prosecutor Michael Ernest, who heads the Criminal Division, now has seven assistant attorneys general.

Of the seven, Brian Gallagher is the only one considered an experienced trial attorney.

Lack of experience, however, is not an issue for Buckingham, who said they have had, under Ernest's direction, three separate training sessions on various legal topics in the last six weeks.

"Training will be ongoing. Teamwork is emphasized where the prosecutors share information and support each other," he stressed.

On the issue of performance, the AG said when they charge a new case, they seek to provide the defendant and their counsel with discovery early on—not six months later.

"We provide an offer (plea bargain) early on so the case can be resolved quickly in the interests of all concerned," he said.

With respect to the victims, Buckingham said he has issued directives to ensure that victims know about cases and possible plea agreements before they are finalized.

Buckingham said although the victim does not make the final decision, they need to respect them and provide them with information and an opportunity to be heard.

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ON LAWSUIT FILED OVER PUERTO RICO FINAL DUMP CLOSURE PROJECT

Wiseman dismisses one protest, denies to dismiss second protest

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
REPORTER

The Superior Court has ruled it lacks jurisdiction to review one protest, but has the authority to review the second protest filed both by a company that sued government officials over procurement decisions made on the Puerto Rico dump final closure project.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman on Thursday granted a motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction filed by respondents capital improvement project contracting officer James R. Stump, Office of the Governor, Procurement and Supply Division Director Herman S. Sablan, and the Department of Finance, with respect to protest one raised by GPPC Inc.

Wiseman, however, denied the respondents' motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction filed by respondents, with respect to GPPC's second protest.

The judge said GPPC should have filed its petition for judicial review after protest one was denied.

He said GPPC timely appealed the denial within 30 days, giving the court jurisdiction to review OPA's denial of the second protest.

In its lawsuit, GPPC asked the court to disqualify the bid submitted by Innovative Technical Solutions Inc. (ITSI) and to prevent any government contract award to ITSI.

GPPC filed protest one on Aug. 13, 2009 with the Procurement and Supply. It alleged that ITSI's bid to the project was untimely.

Procurement Director Sablan denied protest one on Sept. 23, 2009. GPPC appealed to the Office of Public Auditor, but OPA affirmed Sablan's decision.

With respect to protest two filed on Dec. 14, 2009, GPPC alleged that ITSI's bid should have been rejected as nonresponsive. Sablan denied the protest on Jan. 22, 2009. GPPC appealed, but OPA affirmed Sablan's decision.

GPPC, through counsel Mark B. Hanson, then filed in court on April 13, 2010 a petition for judicial review challenging the denial of the two protests.

In their motion to dismiss, the respondents, through counsel Craig Dittrich, argued that the court did not have jurisdiction to hear either of the protests.

With regard to protest one, Dittrich asserted that GPPC did not seek judicial review within 30 days of the final agency action.

With respect to protest two, Dittrich argued that GPPC did not file a timely protest under Finance's procurement regulations.

Hanson, on behalf of GPPC, stated that once it was determined that the Procurement Director was going to consider ITSI's bid as timely submitted and properly opened, that is when GPPC protested whether ITSI's bid was responsive.

Puerto Rico dump stopped receiving trash in 2003 when the $10-million Marpi landfill opened, but the final closure of the dump has yet to begin.

Hanson further argued that since the Procurement Director accepted protest two as timely and the OPA affirmed the Director's decision with no mention of timeliness, GPPC's appeal was therefore timely.

In his ruling, Wiseman said he believes that OPA's decision was final since a definitive position was reached by OPA that inflicted a concrete injury on petitioner—ITSI's bid was timely and GPPC's protest was denied.

The judge said GPPC's denial of protest one was directly reviewable by the court.

"After OPA issued its decision there were no further administrative remedies that GPPC was required to exhaust and it wanted to seek judicial review, it should have done so at that time," he said.

Wiseman determined that protest two was timely filed since petitioner faxed its second protest to the Procurement Director on Dec. 3, 2009.

The judge said because the 10-day statutory period is 10 business days, excluding holidays and weekends, petitioner did in fact meet the 10-day statutory requirement.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

The new members of the Neighborhood Watch Task Force pose for a group photo after their oath-taking ceremony last Friday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan officiated the oath-taking.

People 'tired of being victimized,' join Neighborhood watch task force

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Neighborhood Watch Task Force chair Vicente H. Sablan said people are "tired of being victimized," encouraging them to become vigilant and volunteer their time for their village's neighborhood watch.

"We are getting a lot of input from new villages. People are tired of not seeing action being taken so they themselves join the Village Neighborhood Watch," said Sablan on Friday.

New members of the Neighborhood Watch Task Force were sworn in during an oath-taking ceremony held Friday morning at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Building in Susupe.

Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan officiated the oath-taking.

Sablan said the Neighborhood Watch Task Force, which started with As Matuis, Tanapag, Susupe, and Chinatown villages, has expanded to more villages since its inception four years ago.

According to Sablan, the villages of Koblerville, Garapan, Kagman, and Dandan now have their own block captains and have joined the task force in doing community projects such as patrolling of villages.

"We're also getting donations from private sectors which help the task force in accomplishing its goal to improve security in the community by protecting our villages," he said.

Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho said task force members must take the responsibility of protecting their villages since the public cannot continue to rely on the government alone.

"Our government cannot afford [it] now. We must take action," he said.

Camacho also urged members of the task force to take initiative in cleaning surrounding areas of their homes to do away with its negative impact such as rodents and other pests as well as hiding place for lawbreakers.

"We must enlist active participation, help solve crimes, and improve the quality of lives here on our island," said Camacho.

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Camacho commissioned in CNMI as 2nd lieutenant

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Second Lt. Bruce Camacho poses with mother Lydia Barcinas and father Joseph Camacho after his commissioning ceremony held last Friday at the Northern Marianas College.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Cadet Bruce Camacho became the fourth active duty officer to be commissioned to the U.S. Army in the CNMI.

Camacho was commissioned as second lieutenant in a ceremony held Friday at the Northern Marianas College.

Lt. Col. John W. Howerton led Camacho in his oath of office followed by Camacho's pinning administered by his father Joseph Camacho, mother Lydia Barcinas, and grandfather David Camacho.

The newly commissioned lieutenant received his first salute from his uncle, Ret. Sgt. Maj. Herman Atalig.

Another uncle, Lt. Col. Edward Camacho, served as guest speaker during the commissioning ceremony. He became emotional when he acknowledged the newly commissioned lieutenant and his family.

Lt. Col. Camacho advised his nephew to continue striving for the best, being strong, and performing his duties for his family and his country.

Camacho said he chose to be commissioned at the college to honor his humble beginnings. "I feel I owe so much to NMC," he said.

Camacho, who was born in a family of service members, said his father was an Airborne Ranger and would not approve his joining the service unless he became an officer. This prompted Camacho to take up the Army ROTC program at the college.

Camacho thanked the many people who became instrumental in his commissioning as second lieutenant, including his family, the Tinian High School JROTC program, Master Sgt. Hank Burke, Maj. Rosita Mendiola, Howerton, and Dr. Ron McNinch.

The newly commissioned lieutenant addressed all the NMC students and cadets, reminding them to stay motivated despite the difficulties they will meet as they continue with the program.

"It's your job to find that reason for motivation. Once you find it, keep it in your heart and plant them in your mind," he said.

Camacho will report to his Infantry Basic Officer Course on Jan. 3, 2011. Upon completion, he will head to Korea for his first duty station.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Birthday greetings go out to Didith Julve who celebrated his birthday last Sept. 17. Greetings from your fellow members at Victorious Christian Church.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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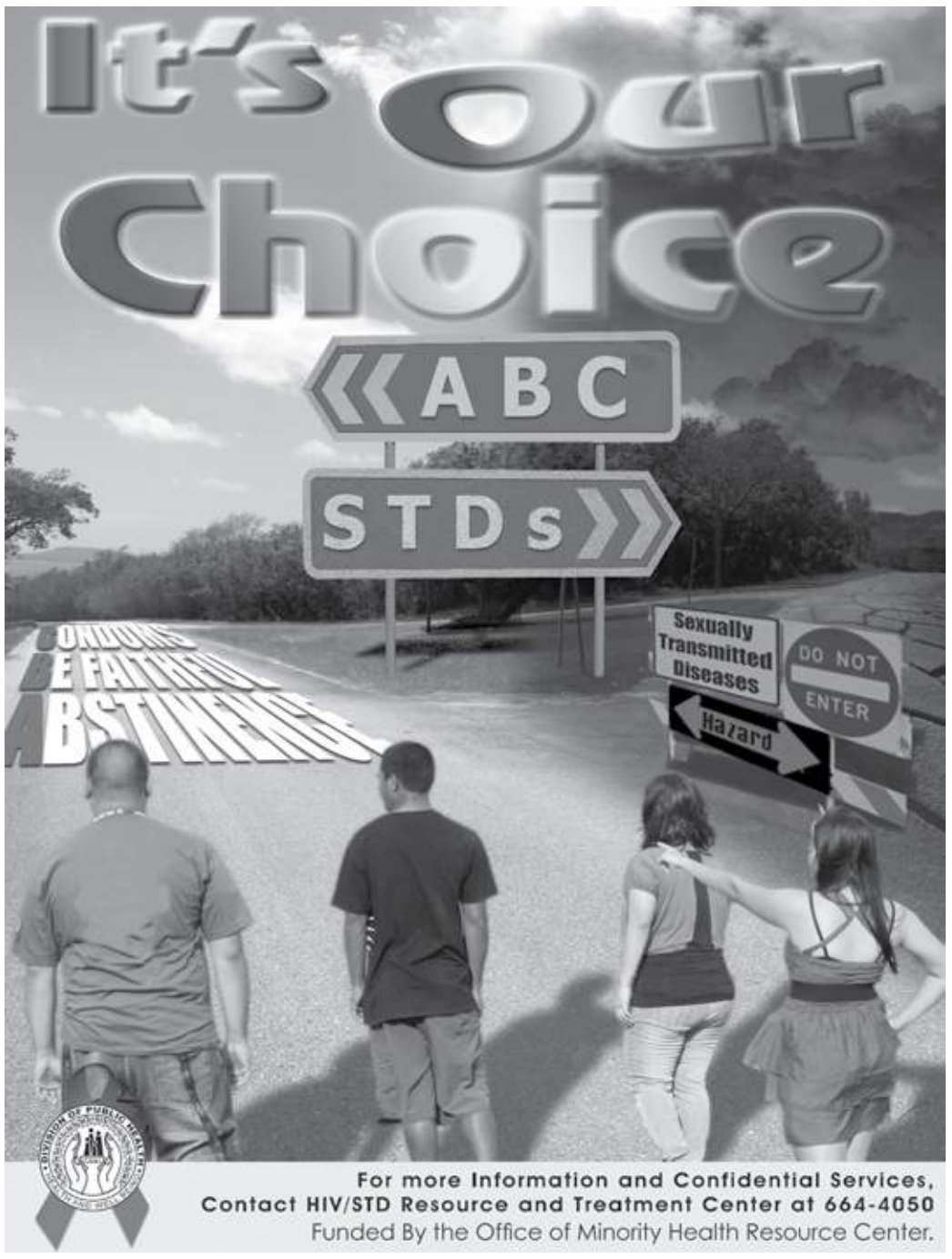

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NOTICE OF MISSING ALLOTMENT

This is to notify CNMI Government employees who have StayWell health insurance that there is a missing allotment for the September 10, 2010, pay date.

Therefore, StayWell members will need to stop by the StayWell office at Lower Capital Hill to make a payment. Letters are also being sent to the affected members. Please make payment immediately or your health insurance will have to be temporarily suspended until payment has been received. Please contact StayWell at 323-4260/61/62 if you have questions or concerns. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Marianas Grazing Academy and Livestock Workshop II set

The Northern Marianas College's Marianas Grazing and Livestock Academy will host another series of workshops from Sept. 23 to 25.

The workshops will be held in Room D-1 at Northern Marianas College's As Terlaje campus. Registration begins at 7:30am with instructional activities to follow from 8am to 3:30pm each day.

The academy is aimed at building local agricultural capacity and educating farmers and ranchers about increasing the economic viability of their products.

The workshops, which require no registration or participation fee, will cover various topics, such as mobile slaughter facilities, reproductive management, grazing animal behavior, animal handling facilities, range and pasture animal nutrition, ruminant digestion, animal health and management, and herd management. Other activities also include farm visits to demonstration sites, field activities, and discussion on industry issues.

The academy, a project organized through a collaborative effort between the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service (NMC-CREES) Livestock Improvement Program, and experienced pasture, livestock, and soil specialists from the University of Hawaii, University of the Virgin Islands, and the University of Guam, seeks to enhance the production of high quality meat products, which can serve to improve food sustainability through the adoption of appropriate technologies and practices in grazing and livestock management.

The academy also seeks to provide local farmers, ranchers, technical resource personnel and other interagency collaborators with assistance and guidance in planning and developing special local projects to improve the economic viability of grazing activities in the CNMI.

To register for the workshops or for more information, contact Claus Bier on Saipan at 234-3691, or Lauwrence Duponcheel at 433-0639 and Dr. Allan Sabaldica at 433-2576 on Tinian. To learn more about the Marianas Grazing Academy (MGA), visit www.marianasgrazingacademy.org. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 20, 1999

DOF urged to expedite probe on prices

Disappointed that it has yet to submit a report, Rep. Melvin Faisao has asked the Department of Finance to expedite investigation on consumer prices to help him come up with comprehensive analysis on factors that affect the rates. The representative said the probe he initiated five months ago has yet to determine the reasons why consumer goods sold in the CNMI are a lot more expensive than on Guam. "We have to explain to the public why they spend more when they buy these on the island," Faisao said in an interview. The lawmaker, responding to complaints from consumers about the wide disparity, has attempted to shed light on the different factors dictating the prices of consumer goods being sold here.

Saipan repeals 15-cent viewer's tax

Saipan legislators on Friday finally repealed a one-year law that imposed a 15-cent tax on every rental of video tape and each movie ticket following months of debate on whether to scrap it or not. House Local Bill 11-15 offered by Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider now heads to the governor for his consideration after the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation voted 9-2, with one abstention, in favor of the repeal of Saipan Local Law 11-1 or the Viewers Tax Act of 1998. The move was prompted apparently by a backlash from both video store owners and consumers on the island who were caught by surprise when the local legislative body passed the law last year in efforts to raise funds for proposed youth centers on Saipan without a public hearing.

Sept. 20, 2000

Protests against Enron reach OPA

Three formal protests against the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's controversial decision to award Saipan's 80-megawatt power plant to Enron made their way to the Office of the Public Auditor yesterday. Public Auditor Leo LaMotte disclosed his office has started working on the protest individually filed by the consortium of Alsons, Tomen, Singapore Power and Tan Holdings; Saipan Power Partners; and Telesource CNMI, Inc.

Mr. LaMotte refused to say when does OPA expect to complete its review of the arguments presented by the protesting companies but stressed that auditors are now examining the documents submitted by the Tomen consortium, SPP and Telesource.

Wrong emphasis on law enforcement

Our View: DPS has placed greater emphasis on highway patrol than going after criminals in our community. The general public isn't ignorant of the lack of peace in the villages. They are fully wary of criminal activities being on the rise from theft to robbery and murder. These criminal activities basically include purse snatching, robbery in poker venues, cattle rustling and theft of commercial farmers' produce and a case of murder of a tourist in her hotel room. Unbelievably, there's also the bicycle theft season where reporting parents of such widespread mischief are left to investigate for themselves. In short, there's the apparent loss of trust on the part of the general public on the ability of the Department of Public Safety to keep and ensure safety and peace in our community.

Sept. 20, 2001

Fund seals settlement deal with Torres

The Board of Trustees of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement has agreed to come to a settlement with former Administrator Juan S. Torres over the lawsuit the latter filed against the Board for sacking him. During yesterday's regular board meeting, majority of the board members voted to amicably settle the case with Torres, with only three voting nay-board chairman Vicente C. Camacho, board members Charles P. Reyes and Susana Mafnas. Torres, who was present together with his lawyer, Michael Dotts, during the meeting, later said that he was pleased over the board's decision "but I cannot issue any more comments than that until everything is in black and white." Dotts later elaborated by saying that "we are happy with this turn of events and this will hasten the resolution of this case."

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

International COASTAL CLEANUP 2010

FRIDAY, SEPT. 24th and SATURDAY, SEPT. 25th!

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Fiesta Resort and Spa
Mariana Islands Nature Alliance
Saipan International School
Friends of the Marianas
Saipan Swim Club
Pacific Marine Resources Institute
Hyatt Regency Saipan
NMC Environment and Natural Resources
Saipan Seventh Day Adventist School
Port Users and Operators Committee
Brabu Pharmacy
Hopwood Junior High School
CTSI Logistics
Mayor's Office of Saipan
Office of Rep. Antonio Sablan
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Quartermaster Rd. to MVA
Unai Sadog Tasi
North Laolao Beach
Wing Beach
San Roque Beach
Susupe Park Beach
13 Fishermen Monument area
PIC to San Antonio Elementary
San Antonio Beach

TINIAN: All government agencies and schools are asked to help out on Friday the 24th.

ROTA: Rota volunteers will be cleaning beaches as part of the Coastal Cleanup for the sixth year in a row! We encourage all Rota agencies, organizations and individuals to join this longest running international cleanup event in the CNMI.

*Note: These lists were updated September 2 New groups and sites are added daily. Help us by spreading the word to your friends and colleagues.

There's still time to volunteer your group for the International Coastal Cleanup! We can all make a difference when it comes to marine debris. Call CRM at the numbers below to request a 2010 cleanup registration form.

CLEANUP CONTACTS:
664-8305 (Saipan)
532-0466 (Rota)
433-0494 (Tinian)

Thank you to our partners - Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, Beautify CNMI, and the Department of Public Works

Division of Environmental Quality CNMI DEQ
Coral Reef Initiative Northern Mariana Islands
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Iran, women, barbarism

Iran's decision to release Sarah Shourd, a 32-year-old American who was imprisoned in the Islamic republic on ridiculous charges of espionage, is drawing cheers this week and rightly so.

Shourd was hiking along the Iraq-Iran border with her fiance and a friend in July 2009, when they were arrested by Iranian officials and thrown in prison in Tehran. They have been behind bars for more than a year. While she was held in solitary confinement, Shourd found a lump in her breast. She was diagnosed with precancerous cells.

Ramin Mehmanarast, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, told Iran's Mehr news agency that President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad intervened in Shourd's case in part because of the "special viewpoint of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the dignity of women."

Never mind the international pressure to release the three Americans or the $500,000 in bail paid for Shourd's release.

But since Mehmanarast brought it up, let's examine the special viewpoint of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the dignity of women, if that's what he wants to call it.

Let's examine execution by stoning, a sentence that Iran imposes far more often on women than men.

Under Iran's penal code, men and women convicted of adultery are to be stoned to death. Yes, it's as gruesome as it sounds. A woman is buried up to her chest; a man is usually buried to his waist. The stones are not to be large enough to kill the person on just one or two strikes, or so small that they could not be defined as stones. They are used to pummel the victim until she dies.

Amnesty International points out that the system makes women more prone to such a fate. Men are allowed multiple wives in Iran, and evidence presented by a woman in court is given less weight than that by a man.

At least 11 Iranians in prison face stoning, and eight are women, according to Amnesty.

The case of one prisoner—Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani, a 43-year-old mother of two who was sentenced to be stoned for a 2006 adultery conviction—has drawn worldwide outrage. As a result of the attention, Iranian officials said they would drop the sentence. The government has also stepped back from carrying out plans to stone to death Mariam Ghorbanzadeh She was six months' pregnant when she was beaten in Tabriz prison and suffered a miscarriage, according to Houtan Kian, an attorney for the two women.

Is Iran showing mercy? Hardly.

The government changed Ghorbanzadeh's sentence—to hanging. Iranian officials have reframed the case against Ashtiani, saying she is guilty of complicity in the murder of her husband, which could lead to a death sentence.

Kian, who represents two other women in Tabriz prison on adultery convictions, worries about the cases that have not entered the global spotlight. "My fear is that Iran executes Mariam and those others whose cases have not attracted media attention," he told the Guardian.

Last week, the president of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, lashed out against Ashtiani's stoning sentence, calling it "barbaric beyond words."

That message needs to echo around the world. An execution of any kind for adultery is barbaric. Iran's "special viewpoint" on women is barbaric.

(c) 2010, Chicago Tribune

Look! Millions of $$$ under our feet!—Part II

"You are what your deep, driving desire is,
As your desire is, so is your will.
As your will is, so is your deed.
As your deed is, so is your destiny."
—From the *Upanishad*

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Last week I discussed a protective tariff that would greatly stimulate and motivate our economy. By imposing a tariff on goods that we produce or grow here will greatly stimulate our economy and create a greater money flow and work opportunities.

Countries all over the world have been playing this type of game and succeeding. Let's explore the possibility and do some number crunching. Talk to several specialists. I pray that my discussion has not been thrown out with last week's old newspaper. If it has what a shame.

Also I discussed several other opportunities we should explore. Look, it's not a case of whether they are good or bad ideas. We must try finding ways out of this pitiable situation we find ourselves in. Suppose we were lost in a cave several hundred feet down, would we just sit and wait for death or explore every opening and pathway in the cave?

Today I am offering more suggestions that need exploring. All that is asked is that we screw up our courage and act! I am exhorting us to try—try! You probably have better ideas than I. No idea at this time is silly. All must be tried. Lack of money is NOT the problem! The real problem is our ATTITUDE! Recall that what your "driving desire is…so is our will …so is our destiny." Jump and take the risk!

Have any of us considered what the potential market can be for our fresh papaya? Does anyone try to sell them to the tourists to take home as the vendors in the stores and at the airport do in Hawaii? How about banana chips, frozen mangos, star-apples and other local fruits? Is there anything we can do with them? Visit Dr. Kim at CRESS at NMC to help you. He is a genius in finding ways to add value to the local products.

My favorite one is flower culture. Flowers have a high value in relation to bulk and can be flown to Asian markets and the U.S. These may include plumeria, hibiscus, anthurium, chrysanthemum, roses, snap dragons, carnation, vanda orchid, ti-leaf, and marigold. Why do flower shops import flowers when we grow them locally? What nonsense!

What about small manufacturing or assembly of leather sandals, belts, wallets, etc. handicrafts and souvenirs such as shell jewelry, ceramic products, candy, Hafa Adai island shirts and mumus? It is fun and profitable to make souvenir candles.

Can we add some new and exciting tourists attractions such as hot air sightseeing balloons which remain tethered. For example in Guam there are several thrilling rides right in Tumon Drive for tourists. Come on, you think. What would you enjoy if you visited a tropical island and wanted a thrill besides scuba diving?

Last week I mentioned that you should get a copy of *Who Stole My Cheese?* The book tells the story of Hem and Haw, two mouse-like critters who live in a maze and love cheese. One day, after years of finding their cheese in the same place, Hem and Haw awaken to find their precious cheddar gone. Somebody has moved their cheese. Hem and Haw react differently to this discovery. Hem, the whiny mouseling, wants to wait until somebody puts the cheese back. Haw, the anxious but realistic mouseling, wants to venture into the maze to discover new cheese. In the end, Haw convinces Hem that they should take action to solve their problem rather than wait for the solution magically to appear. So they search until they discover new cheese which they realize they must be aware of daily or it too may vanish.

The moral of the story is that change is inevitable, and when it happens, the wisest response is not to wail or whine, but to suck it up and deal with it. This story is so fitting to what many of us are doing in the CNMI. Change has come upon us and we are refusing to change with it.

For the past years I have been pleading that we must take back and recreate our own economy. But, alas, it has been falling on deaf ears. I truly believe that if our leaders were to come down and empathize with us, they would realize the basic problem and how to solve it. We need motivation and incentives from the top down.

Imagine the following scenario. The two top leaders of our country discussing with us, not the problems with the United States, but the problems of creating jobs and encouraging all of us to find a job. In fact, they set up a job creating agency and encourage all of the people to sign up. They make small loans available to us who want to set up a small business and show a definite desire. Instead of loading more employees into the government bandwagon, they turn over much of the work being done by the "non-essential" employees to the private sector.

Until our leaders walk among us and come into village meetings and discuss with us how we can become economically stable again, we will continue to increase our line leading to the food stamp window. We need them to talk to us and help us create opportunities. All countries that are economically strong are led by determined leaders who know how to create a business environment. Why can't we do likewise here?

Frankly speaking, during the past months I have never heard anyone up at Capitol Hill talk about creating opportunities. Instead all the talk is how to increase license fees, how to squeeze more money out of us. Instead our Administration and some other "leaders" argue about who should get the praise for this or that piece of coin thrown to us by the United States government as charity and pity. What a shame!

Please consider some of the ideas I and others have been suggest-

See LOOK on Page 14

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The Mo Mo Story: a recap

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

It was in one of those marvelous sunsets that the Philippines is known for that I blurted out to my then 12-year old daughter in the mid-'80s: *"My, what a beautiful sunset."* My Fil-Am daughter had already been to schools in Saskatoon, Chicago, Manila, Majuro, Agaña, Cebu, so she was precocious just by being exposed to a variety of locations at that early age, more than the sum of some of my friends' exposure in a lifetime. Anyway, she had this knowing look on her face, and said, *"Dad, the sun does not set; the earth turns!"*

The foregoing sums up what C. P. Snow once referred to as the conflict between the arts and science. That perceived conflict persists in the ongoing debate between evolution and creation, science v. arts and humanities. In our current state of pedagogy, we are, however, clear that there is factual data, and there is the experience of significance and constructed universe of meaning. Our educational preoccupation in the last century has been encyclopedic knowledge, unfortunately with the preponderance of inert facts over the discourse of meaning. Ours has been an attempt at a balance with the latter.

"Sunset" is a metaphorical word; "the earth turns" is its factual face in the catalogue of observable and verifiable data. That we are drowning in inert facts of no significant use unless one enjoys "trivial pursuit" or any of those Alex Trebek type of tests is an 'accurate' characterization of our age.

We bother with this distinction because of the responses we got from our Mo Mo story. The three articles started as just one, on the day Mo Mo was to depart the CNMI, to indicate that she may not be leaving with a bang, but nor she exiting with just a whimper, either. It turned out to be *déjà vu* all over again. She was unnecessarily detained in prison for 88 days last year due to a lost passport. This time, we could not locate her passport again on the day of her departure. The CNMI Immigration Division no longer exists, and the AG's office had handed over their work to the feds, so who physically had a copy of her passport?

Mo Mo's lawyer had just been contacted by the Immigration and Custom's Enforcement Office on the legal process of Mo Mo's deportation. Though a party to an existing suit on unlawful violation of her civil rights, Mo Mo's felony requires judicial permission to remain 'legal' on island, and the absence of the same renders Mo Mo subject to forceful relocation as a condition of her sentence. The courtesy call was nice. Compared to the surprise deportation call 72 hours before curtain time from the old Immigration office, the new folks were acting professional!

Serendipitously, Asiana Airlines could not confirm the Inchon/Seoul-Yanji leg of Mo Mo's ticket so a two-day reprieve was gained. The passport was finally located at the Immigration and Custom's Enforcement office, though their telephone number was not readily accessible from directory assistance or the printed phonebook, nor their location a common public knowledge. Having directed the Marianas Resource Center of the Immanuel United Methodist Church previously, island network produced the needed phone number.

One Opinion article grew to three, and Mo Mo's friends and acquaintances, particularly those from Tinian, were either sympathetic or condemnatory of the articles. "We all know Mo Mo in Tinian, and you have maligned not only her good name, but also the reputation of those who were her friends and associates," was a scream on the phone in a tone that would make Stanley Torres' rants sound like carousel play.

There are those who apologized for having been rash in their judgment of her character as just another money-hungry alien out to live off the fat of the land especially on the weakness of the local residents. One saw a properly chastened but not guilt-down-laden person deserving of her prayers and good wishes.

It would be convenient to simply say that the "earth turn" contents of the articles are Mo Mo's. Facts were certainly not made up, but the "sunset" part was mine. Mo Mo as "Ms. Someone" can be taken either as a *nobody* or a *somebody.* Mo Mo has shown that she chose the latter. A clear dichotomy then of "earth turn/sunset" does not lend itself easily to parceling areas of responsibility and accountability. So I take full responsibility for the narrated factual base as well as the significance derived from the articles.

To be sure, we treated the lighter part of the story more than the heavy gory details that go with gambling and its insidious influence on finances and behavior, the odious and anxious hangover from alcohol and drugs, and the varied beats that accompany the soft tunes and heavy metal rock music in the karaoke bar, a discernable choice between arid facts and filled-full meaning, of the heavy tome of religious morality over the existential lightness of being.

Whether Mo Mo returns for her hearing or will leave it to her lawyer to represent her interest, she will decide later. She left on a one-way ticket. American law allows her to return as a plaintiff. Whether she will is her choice. And that finally is what the discovery of "Mo Mo" was all about. She can decide. Life is not determined; it is chosen. The future is open.

Gi tiempun abundansia

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

Gi mapos na kuarenta años, megai fiñkas salape guine, punta pot punta. Diariu man-manunu hit gi fe'gun sanhiyuñg 'sino kantun unai yan gi lanchu. I man-suette ya man-na'sahñge felis hinanau niha. I man-suette ya madispetdisian ñaihon mahahala talañgan niha pagu. Ni kuantu na animun para un' na'sahñge gi tiempun eskases, memegaiña 'nai dimalas ennau na intension. I tautau munana' sahñge gi tiempun abundansia.

Kanaha' todus mumiresi apas riniklaman geran dos, atkilon tanu familia, manana'lu yan apas tanu ni machule ni gobietnu gi tiempon TT; yan otru siha fina suette.

Megai umusa suetten niha gi mahatsan fitme na guma' familia. I dumiskuida siha, megaiña pagu sinetsut pot ti man-na'sahñge dididi para 'an mattu oran mattiru yan chinatsaga.

Tafafana' un' didog na chinatsaga pagu sa' mampus bahu i kinalamten tano'ta. Haye ha' un' atan, chumichichi ni baban i tiempu. Hafa mohon mauleg ta chogue kumu membron komunidan iya Marianas.

Atrasau i para tafan asogne sa' taya' este benifisioña gi megai na familia guine. Lau guaguaha' tiempu para tafan arikohe gi hilu antau kinemprende para ta aregla halum gima'ta. Dobla mañgas miyu sa' mattu i oran sufa'.

I bandan praibet 'sino industria siha guine 'nai mau'udai siste-man kinalamten gobietnu. Makat ta pega otru obligasion gi este na grupu sa' gigon sulun ya basnag, lamegai gi ha emplelea pagu u fan tai chechu.

Este na patte gi ekonomian tano'ta sumesetbe kulan tatalu' gobietnamentota. Mas ke 90 pot sientu gi bisnis guine man-dikiki. Este na patte 'nai gaige memegaiña na offisiu pagu. Lau pot baban kinalamten, ni siha mismu ti listu man-mañgone mas empleau. Chaleg mampos kinalamten niha lokue na biahe.

'Nai un' tiempu taya' chupa Saipan, todu i un' soda siempre haeñgulu' un' banda betsan chininamu kau gai chipa hau. Ensegidas de halie' na guaha, sinparat hagagau estake hokog. A`Saina!

Hu lie' amiguhu ha tampe tropan sesyun gi inai iya Oleai. Ha rikohe ensegidas ya ha pega gi karetaña. Hu faisen hafa na tiha tantan gi hilu unai, ilegña: "Nañgga, este na baban ekonomia haye ha' lumie'yu siempre u fan gagau". Magahet!

Ha konfisat ñaihon i prohimu sinakeña latan ham. Ninae' as pale anaghu pinitensiaña. Mientras tantos, humanau si pale ya ha pega i latan ham gi kosinan kombentu. Tiha soda' i prohimu sinakeña ham.

Mattu dispues kumonfisat pot un' bonitan palaoan. Finaisen as pale amanu 'nai sumasaga ayu na sutterita. Ilegña i prohimu, "Mmmm! Un' hassu pale i ham?" Magpu i nobena!

Madispacha un' kaosa pot ti sumaga i prohimu gi Stop Sign. Mamaisen i umaresta i kilisyanu hafa na madispacha i kaosa. Ilegña i gachoñgña, "Sa' un' tuge 'did not SPOT at the SPOT SING' ya nina' chatsaga i jues ni pinegamu". Probleman madiletran finu Iñglish.

Umasudayu yan un' mefnu' na amigahu. Mattu ham gi asuntun hinemlu 'nai sañgan, "Ilegña si Yuus 'bai' nae' hau chinotmu lau hagu un' espiha amotmu'." Hu abirigua kau hineñgogña i ha sasañgan pat finatinasña.

Mahetog na inague finu i Saina. Hu atrebi sumañgane na matai si Jesukristo mas ke dos mit años antes. Dies ha' tinago'ña lau ti sumasaunau regalon chetnot. Uttimoña hu faisen ñgaian uttimu 'nai umalie'gue yan i Saina. Mamat kilu ye esta pagu ha atan buñeñelosyu. De dios, lastima i haanen dottrina siha.

Kumomotgan i amiguhu un' Dameñgo. Ha dibidi i ostia gi dos. I un' banda ha pañot, i otru ha pega gi pottanmonedaña. Hu faisen hafa buska bidadaña. Ilegña, "Iku, i otro patte para 'an ti humosmeyu misa gi otru Dameñgo". Ai i chechu chanseru.

Letter to the Editor

Remember our covenant!

On Friday, Congressman Sablan published a letter in which he wrote"

"…it is important that everyone in the Marianas be aware of just how much help we get from U.S. taxpayers. If anyone deserves "credit," it is those folks in Hawaii and Florida and Idaho, who generously share their tax dollars with us. I feel so grateful and humbled, when I talk to other members of Congress…"

I would like to disagree with Congressman Sablan on this issue.

If anyone deserves "credit" because we do not pay federal taxes, it is our leaders who were on the Marianas Political Status Commission (MPSC). They were the ones who successfully negotiated the provision in our Covenant stating that we do not have to pay federal taxes. We should give credit where credit is due.

Section 601(a) of our Covenant specifically states that the federal income tax laws of the U.S. will apply "in the same manner as those laws are in force in Guam." Guam's federal taxes are all paid back to Guam. Section 602 then says that our government "may by local law impose such taxes, in addition to those imposed under Section 601, as it deems appropriate and provide for the rebate of any taxes received by it…." Then in Section 703(b), it states that "There will be paid into the Treasury of the [CNMI], to be expended to the benefit of the people thereof as the Government may by law prescribe, the proceeds of all customs duties and federal income taxes derived from the Northern Mariana Islands…." (Emphasis mine.)

As a candidate for U.S. Congress, I offer a more productive and appropriate way in addressing the issue. We must always remember our Covenant! It is the document that established our relationship with the United States. It is our contract with America!

Under Section 701 of our Covenant, it states that:

"The Government of the United States will (emphasis mine) assist the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands in its efforts to achieve a progressively higher standard of living for its people as part of the American economic community and to develop the economic resources needed to meet the financial responsibilities of local self-government."

Another "credit" due to our MPSC members for successfully negotiating this provision.

Rather than feeling "grateful" to and "humbled" by voting members of Congress and their constituents, the voting members must be reminded at every available opportunity that much work remains to be done for the United States to fulfill its obligations to the Commonwealth. In my opinion, the United States has not fulfilled its obligation to assist us "achieve a progressively higher standard of living … and to develop the economic resources needed to meet the financial responsibilities of local self-government."

What our MPSC negotiators obtained was not a gift from the United States. In return for what our MPSC negotiators obtained, the United States, under Section 802 of our Covenant, obtained our lands for very low rental; two-thirds in Tinian, a little on Saipan, and all of Farallon de Medinilla. In addition, the people of the NMI gave the United States, in Section 104 of our Covenant, "complete responsibility for and authority with respect to matters relating to foreign affairs and defense affecting the Northern Mariana Islands."

The voting members of the U.S. Congress must be reminded that the CNMI has kept its promises under our Covenant. The people of the Marianas must remember, and also be grateful to and humbled by, the wisdom of its own people, the people who negotiated our Covenant, the members of MPSC.

As your congressman, I will remind the voting members everyday of the promises made by the United States, and the promises that remain to be fulfilled. I will especially devote my energies

See REMEMBER on Page 14

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

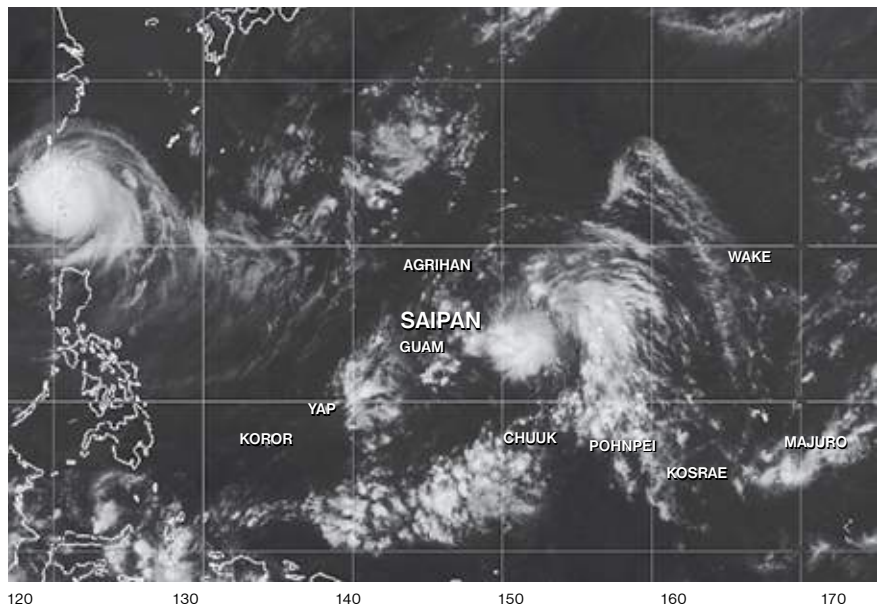
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Palau	Sunny	▲88	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼77
Pohnpei	Partly Sunny	▲88	▼75
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼51
Beijing	Showers	▲72	▼58
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲89	▼71
Honolulu	Sunny	▲86	▼75
London	Showers	▲63	▼52
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲77	▼60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲89	▼76
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲61	▼47
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼77
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼71
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼71
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲66	▼44
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼72
Rome	Thundershowers	▲82	▼62
Salem	Showers	▲66	▼55
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲61	▼55
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲78	▼69
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲83	▼74
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲85	▼64

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends southwestward from 20N155E through a developing tropical disturbance centered east of the Marianas near 14N151E to end at 11N146E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring in the vicinity of the disturbance and trough between 19N and 12N from 150E to 159E and south of Guam within 60 miles of a line from 11N145E to 14N150E. Converging southeast winds southeast of the disturbance is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms just to the north of Pohnpei between 12N and 7N from 154E to 160E. A weak surface trough runs southward from 12N140E to 8N141E. Scattered showers are found east of yap within 100 miles of the trough. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers southwest of Chuuk within 150 miles of a line from 2N138E to 5N152E. farther east. Scattered showers are located just to the south of Majuro within 80 miles of a line from 4N166E to 9N177E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

5:04 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
12:00 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
6:35 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:15 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:14 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:14 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:13 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:10 PM	3:21 AM
Tuesday	4:45 PM	4:08 AM
Wednesday	5:20 PM	4:55 AM
Thursday	5:55 PM	5:41 AM
Friday	6:31 PM	6:27 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA

DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily

NAGOYA-SAIPAN

DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL630/641	6:30am	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

GOLD IS OVER $1,200 AN OUNCE ★ GOLD IS OVER $1,200 AN OUNCE ★ GOLD IS OVER $1,200 AN OUNCE

BUYING!
GOLD ★ SILVER ★ PLATINUM

IMMEDIATE CASH PAID!

★ ★

DON'T MISS THIS EVENT!

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TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST THRU SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 25TH

9AM TO 4PM ALL DAYS

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TUESDAY SEPT. 21ST ★ WEDNESDAY SEPT. 22ND ★ THURSDAY SEPT. 23RD
FRIDAY SEPT. 24TH ★ FINAL DAY SATURDAY SEPT. 25TH

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- ☑ ***Gold Watch Bands*** ..... up to $1,000
- ☑ ***Gold Wedding Bands*** ..... up to $350
- ☑ ***Gold Bangles*** ..... up to $850
- ☑ ***Gold Pendants*** ..... up to $300
- ☑ ***Gold Charm Bracelets*** ... up to $2,000
- ☑ ***Gold Charms*** ..... up to $300
- ☑ ***Gold School Rings*** ..... up to $500
- ☑ ***Gold Chains*** ..... up to $1,000
- ☑ ***Gold Earrings*** ..... up to $200
- ☑ ***Dental Gold*** ..... up to $900
- ☑ ***Gold Scrap*** ..... up to $1,250
- ☑ ***Gold Nugget Bracelets*** .. up to $2,500
- ☑ ***Gold Broken Necklaces*** . up to $1,500
- ☑ ***Gold Pens*** ..... up to $400
- ☑ ***Gold Watches*** ..... up to $1,750
- ☑ ***Gold Nugget Rings*** ..... up to $800
- ☑ ***Gold Pocket Watches*** ..... up to $750
- ☑ ***Gold Link Bracelets*** ..... up to $2,500
- ☑ ***Gold Broken Chains*** ..... up to $1,000
- ☑ ***Gold Service Awards*** ..... up to $500
- ☑ ***Gold Broken Bracelets*** .. up to $1,500
- ☑ ***Gold Cuff Links*** ..... up to $300
- ☑ ***Gold Broken Rings*** ..... up to $500
- ☑ ***Gold Brooches*** ..... up to $1,000
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- ***$1.00 Silver*** (1935 & earlier) .... ***$8 up to $12,500***
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Letters to the Editor

The politics of federal dollars

This is in an intellectual and common sense response to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Delegate Greg Kilili Sablan's quarrel which has developed over the federal funds. I read the explanation of the governor, Kilili, and the school system on the acquisition of the federal funds which is the epic center of the debate. I have been personally informing voters that Kilili was literally riding the ARRA and stimulus wave of funds that agencies and entities of the government had already applied for in grants and now the truth reveals itself and proves I was right—again!

Over 95 percent of the money our delegate has brought to the CNMI is money that was coming to the CNMI regardless of who our delegate was in Washington because it was the agencies of the government and the autonomous entities of the government like PSS that did the real work to apply for these federal funds. Voters need to know that when Congress awards money to a state or territory they give the money to their Senior Representative in Congress to be delivered. The headlines that read *"Kilili gets money for this or that"* is very misleading to the general public because it gives the impression that Kilili did the work when in reality he just delivered the money. The sad and insulting part is our delegate sucked up all the credit and let the voters continue to be fooled—the politics of federal dollars for votes. His motivation should be obvious and common sense to every voter that reads this because I know many voters were fooled by this deceptive politics in bringing federal dollars to the CNMI—don't be fooled again voters.

The governor was right to complain about Kilili because it was people in his administration that did the work for their agencies to get federal funding. The school system was also right to complain because they also did the work for their federal funds, not Kilili. Our delegate did raise his hand in one or two instances when Congress was distributing the stimulus funds to get us some additional help with the food stamps and *"deserving project"* that only totaled $2.8 million. By his own words Kilili can only take credit for bringing $2.8 million of all the tens of millions of dollars he has presented in the news which has fooled so many voters into thinking he got the money. It is obvious why the governor was upset but the million dollar questions are can voters really trust our delegate now, what can voters of the CNMI look forward to in Washington after ARRA and the stimulus funding ends, will the right person be in Washington to still get things done and will they have the political real estate in Congress to really make it happen for the CNMI?

While we are on the subject of federal funds, the unspent $400,000 by Kilili in this past term of Congress was an absolute waste and a darn shame that he let that money go back as much as we are suffering in the CNMI. Where was the creativity and imagination of our delegate to create some kind of community program(s) for our youth or something to use that money? Does he realize how much good that $400,000 could have done for people in the CNMI? He could have given some local people and youth temporary jobs conducting the badly needed surveys or polls on the political issues that his office and the CNMI will surely have to address in Congress. He could have conducted more public education on congressional issues and there was a plethora of things he could have done but he chose to literally throw the money away—duh!

Wake up voters and make sure you can see beyond the politics of smoke and mirror headlines as to who really got the federal dollars for the NMI before you vote because it was not Kilili. One people one direction for the best candidate to do a better job in Washington

Ambrose Bennett
Kagman

Biba America

America is the land of freedom and democracy. It's true even in their money. It has the words "In God We Trust." I remember way back in 1991 when ex-Philippine President Estrada told the Americans to leave. He told them "… no more war. I need land for the poor." America didn't get mad at Joseph Estrada. The Americans just packed up their things and left, although thousands of Americans died in rescuing Filipinos from the Japanese invaders during World War II. The Filipinos who sacrificed their life for the American democratic ideals, America granted them U.S. veterans and citizenship. In relation to the above, what I am trying to say is that our longtime guest workers have been working here for almost 25 years continuously, so what is their benefits? They are not asking for an impossible status. They are just asking for U.S. passport. So, instead of blocking them from their desire to be part of the American family, why not support them so that on this upcoming November election, we won't have any problem practicing our franchise within the framework of the local voting parameter. So help us be part of you, already-Americans. We have fought for America in the Philippines, and elsewhere, for that, we ask for your utmost consideration in letting us achieve our ideal, and that is, to join the American political family. We were patriotic to the United States of America then, we are still patriotic now. Our loyalty to the U.S. have never faltered.

Our benefit is a U.S. citizenship. May God bless America.

Teddy Guiao
Navy Hill

Retire already

I think it is about time that Judge Govendo retires from the bench. He is too emotional in the bench when trying to come up with a sound decision. Sometimes he is way out of his jurisdiction in rendering decisions. He interferes with stipulations that have been entered by the parties involved in a family court. He is not in sync with the stipulations entered and agreed upon by both parties trapped in dispute. He loves to orchestrate his own definition on our cornerstone of society. He thinks he is the utopia above the law of all societies in the CNMI.

Thomas Aquino Cabrera Camacho
Chalan Piao

LOOK

From Page 10

ing. Let us be strong and create our own destiny as a nation. After all, aren't the end results more important than who gets the credit?

I lived in Japan after the war and visited Korea often also during that period. In those two countries I witnessed the rebirth of these two nations by many people struggling to make a living doing all sorts of small businesses. It was the people willing to help themselves by working that made both nations the powerful ones they are today. Both do not have natural resources, but they have a fiercely determined populace.

Recently on a trip to China I saw a man pulling a small cart with loud music coming from it. He was selling CD's as he strolled down the street. Many people hearing the music walked over to him and bought CD's right on the spot. I thought how enterprising he was. How clever! But he worked for his bread.

The curse that we bear is that we have been spoiled by too many handouts. It has gotten to the point that we have forgotten the sweetness of the bread that comes from having earned it ourselves. Instead we beg Uncle Sam to give us more money for food. What a curse has fallen on our heads!

Unless we become a work oriented community we will always be on the dole. It doesn't have to be like that. Please, leaders, motivate us to greater heights. Help us crystallize a vision for a new CNMI! A new CNMI awaits us. Let us seize the opportunity. We can become both economically strong and with it enjoy happiness again. Yes, there are millions of dollars at our feet. Am I the only crazy guy who thinks like this? Excuse me; I got to get back to work. See you next week.

REMEMBER

From Page 10

to remind the voting members everyday of the obligation of the United States to assist us in achieving "a progressively higher standard of living … and to develop the economic resources needed to meet the financial responsibilities of local self-government."

Jesus C. Borja
Democratic Party candidate for U.S. delegate

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP10-DOC-149

SUBMISSION: OCTOBER 12, 2010 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A MIMC-VIDEO TELECONFERENCE SYSTEM EQUIPMENT FOR THE CNMI MILITARY INTEGRATION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE"

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. TOM LINDEN, MIMC COORDINATOR AT cnmi.mimc@commerce.gov.mp NO LATER THAN 4:30 PM., LOCAL TIME, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2010.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE IT IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MICHAEL J. ADA
Secretary of Commerce

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DPW/TSD-166

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2010 • TIME: 11:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, SAIPAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

INTERESTED BIDDERS SHOULD SUBMIT ALL QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION IN WRITTING NO LATER THAN CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 30, 2010.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH; LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ **MARTIN C. SABLAN**
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-RDLNR-155

SUBMISSION: OCTOBER 13, 2010 • TIME: 1:00 P.M.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) UTILITY TRACTOR - CIF ROTA FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES, ROTA BRANCH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB IS DUE ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2010, CLOSE OF BUSINESS AND SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO **MR. JOEY ANTHONY QUITUGUA**, RESIDENT DIRECTOR AT TEL (670) 532-9494/5 OR BY FAX TO (670) 532-0520 OR E-MAIL TO dlnr@pticom.com.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ **MELCHOR A. MENDIOLA**
MAYOR OF ROTA

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

/s/ **JOEY ANTHONY QUITUGUA**
RESIDENT DIRECTOR
DLNR, ROTA

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DPW/BSC-165

SUBMISSION DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2010 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE LEASE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - BUILDING SAFETY CODE DIVISION, SAIPAN"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

INTERESTED BIDDERS SHOULD SUBMIT ALL QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION IN WRITTING NO LATER THAN CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 30, 2010.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.,

/s/ **MARTIN C. SABLAN**
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
MVA-RFP-10-2302

For: Representation, Promotion and Public Relations Services for the Korea Market

Closing Date: September 30, 2010 Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008. Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work and application for local preference at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a MPLT Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Friday, September 24, 2010 beginning at 9:30 AM at the MPLT Conference Room 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capital Hill, Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

I. PRELIMINARIES
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes
  August 27, 2010

II. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE
- Action Items update

III. CONSULTANT'S REPORTS
- Legal Counsel Report
- Investment Consultant Reports
- Board Consultant Reports
  - o Financial Statements – July 2010
  - o Financial Statement - August 2010
- Loan Administrator Report

IV. OLD BUSINESS
- 2009 Annual Report- draft
- High Yield Investment RFP- proposal review
- DPL Distribution and Constitutional Issues
- RFP 10-03 – Sale of 3 Bedroom House in Kagman- Draft

V. COMMUNICATIONS

VI. NEW BUSINESS
- MPLT Guaranteed Home Loan
- FY 2011 Budget – proposed

VII. MISCELLANEOUS
- Accredited Investment Fiduciary Analyst Program; Nov 9-11, 2010

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Phillip Mendiola-Long, AIF Chairman, MPLT Trustees

CNMI ARRA eye broadband mapping grant application

The CNMI ARRA Office is currently working with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to secure a $1.2M grant for its Broadband Data and Development Project.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said, "The Broadband Data and Development Project is a great opportunity for the CNMI to realize quality broadband service. This will help to increase the connection of our remote location to the rest of the world."

This project will help to determine the CNMI's current broadband capabilities and create a blueprint for the improvement of the current broadband services through comprehensive surveys, town hall meetings, and direct engagement with anchor institutions, stakeholders, and the community.

"The digital inclusion blueprint will be of great value to the CNMI as it identifies barriers for broadband adoption and provides guidelines for the improvement and expansion of the CNMI's current broadband capabilities," said CNMI ARRA state lead Michael J. Ada.

This project differs from the NTIA funded Next Generation Network by IT&E in that the blueprint produced will be available for the public's consumption. This plan will assist in identifying barriers to the island's current broadband services which will enable the CNMI to see positive growth in the areas of education/career opportunities, communications, and economy.

Fitial lauded the CNMI ARRA Office saying, "Making great strides that will be highly beneficial to the people of the Commonwealth truly warrants recognition for the hard working people in the local government who continue to pursue greater opportunities for the Commonwealth."

The grant will help the CNMI in three key areas:

■ Education/Career Opportunities

Better internet connectivity will allow CNMI residents to take online courses to get their degrees. It will enable students to pursue degrees in computer/technical careers i.e. Computer Technology, Data Modeling, and telemedicine. It will allow for more communication with experts from abroad through video/teleconferencing. Moreover, it will allow for our students to expand their horizons through internet tours of areas they normally do not have access to, such as museums and other important landmarks.

■ Communication

The CNMI will have better quality and more reliable telephone and internet services. The CNMI will have quality internet connectivity without constant worry of losing a signal. Problems with slow connections or unreliable reception will be resolved. There will be increased connectivity within the islands as well as nationwide. This will allow for families to stay in touch with their children and family members abroad.

■ Economy

Quality broadband service will create jobs, help businesses with communication issues and connectivity problems allowing for more efficiency. Businesses can update their databases; they can better track business packages, and better communicate with business partners abroad. The increase in service reliability will entice more businesses to come and invest in the CNMI.

The CNMI ARRA Office will continue to work with the NTIA to finalize the grant and expects to have it completed within the next couple of weeks. The projected start date for the project is Nov. 1, 2010. ***(PR)***

Tinian public library commits to supporting student community

The Tinian public library continues to help the local student community by welcoming an average of 50 students daily to its after-school program.

It also dedicates the hours between 2:30pm and 7pm daily (except Saturday) to student learning.

A retired school principal and retired teacher devised a work plan to provide academic support, presented in a personal and non-threatening setting. With the No Child Left Behind law, teachers and students are pressured into a scripted curriculum to perform well on standardized test scores to secure a good share of that federal dollars and teaching positions. This test-driven mode of teaching easily stifles the joy and excitement of learning. Teachers and students are presented with so many challenges to achieve academic proficiency in their classrooms.

Oftentimes teachers are pushed to raise excellent performance among their students that they fail to reach those struggling. These students eventually become the schools underperforming data.

Tinian public library's after-school program provides a one-on-one tutoring service to students "at risk," clarify homework instructions, explain unfamiliar science concepts, help solve math problems, guide in use of technology, and teach to analyze a variety of information in doing research homework.

With the help of three library staff, the two former teachers volunteer to make themselves accessible to guide, coach, encourage, and help motivate students to develop a study habit that can support life long learning. Knowing the challenges students and teachers face as they attempt to tackle the age-old problem: so little time, so much to do, the volunteers commit to become a support arm in student learning and hopefully make a difference in the lives of the students they serve. ***(PR)***

IUMC to host candlelight peace day vigil tomorrow

Immanuel United Methodist Church in Chalan Kanoa is inviting everyone to a candlelight vigil to observe International Peace Day tomorrow, Sept. 21, from 7pm to 7:30pm.

This non-political, non-religious vigil, is not directed against any specific war and will only emphasize peace which IUMC believes is the world's dream. Attendees will join millions around the world observing International Peace Day, many having done so since its establishment by the United Nations 29 years ago.

"The candlelight vigil will open with all singing 'This World is Your World, This World is My World,' followed by a peace quote by United Nations' Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. After short peace quotes from different countries, hopefully representing all areas of the world, all will sing 'We Shall Overcome.' The main thoughts will be about and quotes from Nobel Peace Prize recipient and President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Serafina Rogoyawa, Losanaa Rogoyawa, Annie Tumomao, Mary Deala, and Immanuel United Methodist Church pastor Millie Carroll prepare for tomorrow's International Peace Day Candlelight Vigil.

The short vigil will end with all singing 'Let There Be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with Me' as the candlelight of peace is passed around the circle," said IUMC pastor Millie Carroll.

Carroll added, "The Candlelight Peace Vigil will be appropriate for all ages and younger children are urged to bring a flashlight to use as a candle."

Following the vigil and during simple refreshments, there will be a final opportunity to add messages or an additional one to the peace wall and peace banner before photos are sent of both to the United Nations to include in their peace records. IUMC's Church Council chair Cris Lumanlam said, "World peace is so needed and it is very meaningful and important to be part of this world-wide event being observed by millions around the world. We now hope to observe it every year."

The International Day of Peace was established by the United Nations in 1981 at the opening of the UN sessions. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has said this year's International Day of Peace is extra significant because it comes at the same time as the world's largest anti-poverty campaign meeting. That summit of many world leaders will also be held at the United Nations in New York City.

Everyone invited to tomorrow's International Peace Day Candlelight Peace Vigil at Immanuel United Methodist Church. The church is in Chalan Kanoa on Chalan Kanoa Drive and Barbara Avenue (east of Town Center and Beach Road, near Mt. Carmel Cathedral). For further information, please contact Millie Carroll at 322-6158. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

Commonwealth Ports Authority
Multi Year Financial and Compliance Audit Services

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CPA-RFP-007-10

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed cost proposals for auditing services for a period of three fiscal years. The locations and scope of work package is available beginning Tuesday, September 7, 2010 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Interested proposers must submit one original and three copies of the sealed proposal. Only proposals from U.S. nationally recognized firms will be accepted.

The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m., Monday, September 27, 2010, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport. CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the "Open Government Act", the Public School System State Board of Education, through their Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC), is hereby serving notice to the general public that it will hold a meeting on Thursday, September 23, 2010, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm, at the Pacific Islands Club, Napu Room. This meeting is open to the public; interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
A. Welcome & Introduction
B. Attendance & Quorum

II. Orientation
• Roles and Responsibilities of members

III. Endorsements
• Early Interview Procedural Manual
• Early Interview Monitoring Manual

IV. Review and Revise ICC By-laws

V. OSEPs Verification Visit
• Skateholders Input

VI. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting, but require accessibility such as large print, sign language or interpreter, must call 237-3029/19. Several days' notice is necessary to allow organizers ample time to make necessary arrangements.

/s/ Margaret Aldan
Chairwoman

/s/ Suzanne W. Lizama
Special Education Acting Coordinator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the "Open Government Act", the Public School System State Board of Education, through their Special Education State Advisory Panel (SESAP) is hereby serving notice to the general public that it will hold a special meeting on Wednesday, September 22, 2010, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, at the Pacific Islands Club, Napu Room. This meeting is open to the public; interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
A. Welcome & Introduction

II. OSEP Verification Visit
• Skateholders Input

III. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting, but require accessibility such as large print, sign language or interpreter, must call 237-3029/19. Several days' notice is necessary to allow organizers ample time to make necessary arrangements.

/s/ Frances Diaz
Chairwoman

/s/ Suzanne W. Lizama
Special Education Acting Coordinator

Business

Last test needed before declaring BP oil well dead

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—A pressure test on the blown-out BP well in the Gulf of Mexico was set to be finished early Sunday, the last step needed before the runway well can finally be declared dead.

There was no word from company or government officials on whether the test had started as scheduled or when officials would say that the well had been permanently sealed, though the milestone was expected to be reached Sunday.

The test involves engineers exerting 15,000 pounds of weight against the cement plug to make sure it won't budge. They also will exert 1,150 pounds per square inch of pressure.

Sealing the well is an important step for the still-weary Gulf Coast residents, yet the disaster is far from over. Those who rely on the Gulf for their livelihoods are left to rebuild amid the businesses destroyed by once-oil-stained shorelines and fishing grounds. Even where the seafood is safe, fishermen struggle to sell it to consumers fearful that it's toxic.

News that the blown-out well would soon be dead brought little comfort to people like Sheryl Lindsay, who owns Orange Beach Weddings, which provides beach ceremonies on Alabama's coast.

She said she lost about $240,000 in business as nervous brides-to-be canceled their weddings all summer long and even into the remainder of the year. So far, she has only received about $29,000 in BP compensation.

"I'm scared that BP is going to pull out and leave us hanging with nothing," Lindsay said.

AP

Workers remove the drill pipe on the drilling floor of Development Driller III, which drilled the relief well and pumped the cement to seal the Macondo well, the source of the Deepwater Horizon rig explosion and oil spill, in the Gulf Of Mexico, off the coast of Louisiana, Saturday, Sept. 18, 2010.

Toyota settles suit over high-profile Calif. crash

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)—Toyota Motor Corp. has settled a lawsuit brought by relatives of four family members killed in a high-speed crash near San Diego that galvanized attention around safety flaws of Toyotas and led to the recalls of millions of cars.

A Toyota spokesman confirmed the settlement Saturday in a statement e-mailed to The Associated Press. It was first reported on the Los Angeles Times' Web site Friday night. The company would not specify the settlement's terms.

The Times said Toyota is expected to file motions with the judge disclosing the settlement on Monday. Court filings indicate the two parties reached a settlement in June.

Tim Pestotnik, an attorney for the plaintiffs including the parents of the three adult victims, declined comment when reached by the Times.

The settlement left out one co-defendant—Bob Baker Lexus, the dealer that loaned the family the car.

"Toyota has sought to protect only its own interests. They decided to cut out their own dealer," Larry Willis, attorney for Bob Baker Lexus, told the Times. Willis said the lawsuit against the dealer had not been dropped.

California Highway Patrol officer Mark Saylor, 45, had borrowed the Toyota-made sedan from the dealer in August 2009.

He was killed along with his wife, Cleofe, 45, their daughter Mahala, 13, and Cleofe's brother Chris Lastrella, 39, as they drove on a freeway in suburban San Diego on Aug. 28. Their car reached speeds of more than 120 mph, hit a sport utility vehicle, launched off an embankment, rolled several times and burst into flames.

Investigators found that a wrong-sized floor mat that trapped the accelerator caused the crash.

A 911 call captured Lastrella telling the others to pray before the car launched off the embankment.

Shortly after the crash, Toyota recalled millions of cars to replace floor mats that it said could cause the accelerator to jam. The carmaker later recalled millions more vehicles to replace gas pedals that it said could stick.

BoG launches 2010 calendar photography tilt

HAGATNA, Guam— Bank of Guam's 8th Annual Calendar Photo Contest is now underway and will be adopting the theme "Natural wonders of our islands."

The contest is open to all registered high school students throughout Guam, the CNMI, Republic of Belau, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Marshall Island. Photo must be taken by the student and deadline for submission of entries is on Oct. 8, 2010

Organizers said entries should be submitted in minimum 4X6 print in color or black and white. For digital photos, participants should save a copy to a CD and include a printed copy of the photo.

BoG said cash prizes will be awarded for the cover photo ($250) and each Month's Photo ($150). Each student is limited to two photos each. Entry forms are available at all high schools, Bank of Guam branches, and its website www.bankofguam.com.

BoG prints 17,000 copies of its 2011 calendar, which is distributed throughout its branch network for customers at no charge. The calendar is also sent to deployed troops.

The bank features the winning photos on its website: www.bankofguam.com.

For more information, contact Kebrina Duenas at 472-5236 or kebrina.duenas@bankofguam.com. ***(BoG)***

Nation

Authorities: 6 dead in church van crash in NY

NEW YORK (AP)—A passenger van carrying the leaders of a New York City church blew a tire and flipped over on the New York State Thruway on Saturday, killing at least six people, including the bishop and his wife, authorities said. Eight others were injured.

Fourteen people were in the van when it crashed on the northbound side of Interstate 87 in Woodbury, about 55 miles north of New York City, at about 3 p.m., state police and the Thruway Authority said.

Six of the passengers were dead at the scene. The injured were taken to two different hospitals; four were airlifted out, and the others were taken by ambulance.

"It was a tragic, tragic scene," said state police Troop T commander Major Robert Meyers.

He said the right rear tire blew out on the 1997 van, and the vehicle went into a rumble strip and rolled over into the grassy median separating the north and southbound lanes. Some of the passengers were ejected, and the van came to a rest upside-down.

The injured were taken to either Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern or Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla. The driver survived and was being interviewed, he said.

State police identified them as members of Joy Fellowship Christian Assemblies Inc., a small congregation in the Bronx, and said the church's leaders, bishop Simon White, his wife, minister Zelda White, and pastor Titus McGhie were among those killed in the accident that snarled traffic for hours.

The other dead were identified as Avril Murray, Evelyn Ferguson and Elaine Reid. Their ages could not immediately be confirmed.

Obama: Black lawmakers must rally voters back home

WASHINGTON (AP)_President Barack Obama implored black voters on Saturday to rekindle the passion they felt for his groundbreaking campaign and turn out in force this fall to repel Republicans who are ready to "turn back the clock."

In a fiery speech to the Congressional Black Caucus, Obama warned that Republicans hoping to seize control of Congress want "to do what's right politically, instead of what's right—period."

"I need everybody here to go back to your neighborhoods, to go back to your workplaces, to go to the churches, and go to the barbershops and go to the beauty shops. And tell them we've got more work to do," Obama said to cheers from a black-tie audience at the Washington Convention Center. "Tell them we can't wait to organize. Tell them that the time for action is now."

His speech acknowledged what pollsters have been warning Democrats for months—that blacks are among the key Democratic groups who right now seem unlikely to turn out in large numbers in November.

"It's not surprising given the hardships that we're seeing across the land that a lot of people may not be feeling very energized, very engaged right now," Obama said. "A lot of folks may be feeling like politics is something that they get involved with every four years when there's a presidential election, but they don't see why they should bother the rest of the time."

Child deaths test Fla.'s beach driving tradition

NEW SMYRNA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Four-year-old Aiden Patrick was playing on the beach just yards away from his father when he yelled "Daddy" and ran toward him, into the path of an oncoming truck driving legally on the sand.

The July death has tested this area's tradition of beach driving. Along with a 4-year-old British girl who was struck and killed on Daytona Beach a few months earlier, residents are now torn between outlawing cars on the beach and perseverating a deep-rooted ritual that helped form the Daytona 500 stock car race.

"It's an extremely divisive issue that people get very emotional about," said Volusia County Councilman Josh Wagner.

Like most local elected officials, Wagner wants to keep the custom that has long been part of the area's identity.

Black-and-white photographs of early Ford models racing on the shore decorate bars and restaurant walls around town, some dating back to the first automobiles. NASCAR even held portions of its races on the sand until 1959, when Daytona International Speedway opened and the Daytona 500—now known as "The Great American Race"—began to take shape.

Beach driving isn't as prevalent in Volusia County as it once was. Of the some 40 miles of beaches in the county, only about 17 miles are still open for cars. Vehicles pay a $5 toll for access, and there is a 10 mph speed limit.

ACROSS THE NATION

Sheriff's search for 13 members of LA-area 'cult'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Five adults and eight children from a "cult-like" group in Southern California were reported missing by their families Saturday, and the group left behind letters that they were awaiting the rapture, authorities said. Husbands of two group members, who are from the Palmdale area in northern Los Angeles County, reported the people missing early Saturday, and sheriff's deputies were searching for three vehicles. One of the men had a purse he was asked to hold by one of the group members, and inside were identifications, deeds to property, and letters indicating they were awaiting the end of the world.

Texas man accused of shooting deputies in custody

DALLAS (AP)—A man suspected of shooting two sheriff's deputies and another man, then taunting snipers to make him a martyr before barricading himself in a makeshift bunker, was arrested Saturday after a 22-hour standoff in western Texas, authorities said. Victor White, 55, of Odessa, surrendered as SWAT team members in an armored vehicle closed in on him outside his trailer, Texas Department of Public Safety spokesman John Barton said. White was booked at the Midland County jail for aggravated assault against a public servant, according to online records. No court date or attorney was listed.

Los Angeles activists protest police shooting

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Demonstrators are dispersing after a peaceful rally that began near the spot where a Los Angeles Police officer shot a Guatemalan immigrant who was carrying a knife. Authorities say there were no arrests and no confrontations during the march Saturday that drew about 250 people to the Rampart area west of downtown. Many carried flags from Central American countries and placards decrying the Sept. 5 shooting death of Manuel Jaminez. Most of the protesters marched past the Rampart police station before winding their way to MacArthur Park. A smaller group took their demonstration to LAPD headquarters downtown.

Asia

Obama, ASEAN to call for peaceful end to sea spats

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—President Barack Obama and Southeast Asian leaders will call for the peaceful settlement of South China Sea territorial disputes and urge claimants not to resort to force, according to a draft communique.

Obama

Washington upped the ante in July, when U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton told a regional security forum in Vietnam that the peaceful resolution of the disputes over the Spratly and Paracel groups of islands is an American national interest. Washington was concerned that the conflicts could hamper access to one of the world's busiest commercial sealanes.

Beijing angrily reacted by saying Washington was interfering in an Asian regional issue.

Obama will meet his counterparts from the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations on Friday in a U.S. summit where they are expected to discuss ways to bolster their alliance and discuss economic cooperation and security issues, including the South China Sea disputes.

Obama and the ASEAN leaders will issue a joint statement where Washington has proposed text to reaffirm the importance of freedom of navigation, regional stability, respect for international law and unimpeded commerce in the South China Sea, according to a draft of the statement seen on Sunday by The Associated Press.

The statement will oppose the "use or threat of force by any claimant attempting to enforce disputed claims in the South China Sea."

All the leaders will reaffirm their backing for a 2002 ASEAN-China declaration on the conduct of parties in the South China Sea, which calls on claimants not to take steps that could foment violence and spark new tension. They will encourage claimants to agree on a stronger code of conduct.

Afghans vote despite attacks; turnout appears low

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Despite Taliban rocket strikes and bombings, Afghans voted for a new parliament, the first election since a fraud-marred presidential ballot last year cast doubt on the legitimacy of the embattled government.

As officials tally votes over the next few days, the real test begins: Afghans will have to decide whether to accept the results as legitimate despite a modest turnout and early evidence of fraud.

The Taliban had pledged to disrupt the vote and launched attacks starting with a rocket fired into the capital before dawn Saturday. The insurgent group followed with a series of morning rocket strikes that hit major cities just as people were going to the polls—or weighing whether to risk it.

At least 11 civilians and three police officers were killed, accoring to the Interior Ministry. The governor of Kandahar province survived a bombing as he drove between voting sites. In all, there were 33 bomb explosions and 63 rocket attacks, said Interior Minister Bismillah Khan Mohammadi. He said 27 Taliban were killed Saturday.

Yet there appeared to be less violence than during the last election, when more than 30 civilians were killed and a group of insurgents attacked Kabul. Afghan security officials dismissed the attacks as "insignificant" and said they did not hamper voting, adding that 92 percent of polling stations were open Saturday.

Christians pray in shuttered church in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Dozens of Christians held prayers inside their boarded-up church near Indonesia's capital Sunday, saying they had as much right as anyone to worship in the world's most populous Muslim country.

They were surrounded by hundreds of police and unarmed security guards.

Using bullhorns, local officials reminded members of the Batak Christian Protestant Church they were banned from the site following an attack on two church leaders by suspected Islamic hard-liners.

"We just want to carry out our obligations as Christians, but authorities are treating us like terrorists," said Advent Tambunan, a member of the congregation in the industrial city of Bekasi.

"There's no justice for us in this country."

Indonesia, a secular country of 237 million people, has more Muslims than any other in the world. Though the country has a long history of religious tolerance, a small extremist fringe has become more vocal—and violent—in recent years.

Ten people were arrested after last week's attacks, which left one churchgoer hospitalized with a stab wound. Among them was the local leader of the hard-line Islamic Defender's Front, which has led calls for the Christians to leave.

In recent months, the hard-liners have thrown shoes and water bottles at the church members, interrupted sermons with chants of "Infidels!" and dumped piles of feces on the land.

ASIAN BRIEFS

RP troops kill wanted Abu Sayyaf militant

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine troops clashed with Abu Sayyaf gunmen in a southern coastal village Sunday and killed a long-wanted militant who helped in the 2001 kidnapping of three American and 17 Filipino tourists and the takeover of a hospital, the military said. Abdukarim Sali was killed before dawn in a clash with troops and police in Lower Mangas village on Basilan island's Lantawan township — a stronghold of the al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf, regional military commander Lt. Gen. Benjamin Dolorfino said. The other militants fled, leaving Sali's body, an M16 rifle and grenade launcher, ammunition and cell phones behind.

Troops open fire in Indian Kashmir, killing 3

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Government forces opened fire on a funeral procession and a group of protesters in curfew-bound Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing three civilians and wounding at least 16 others, police and local residents said. The deaths Saturday took the death toll from three months of civil unrest against Indian rule to more than 100. Thousands of people in Anantnag, a town south of the main city of Srinagar, defied the curfew to participate in the funeral of a 17-year-old boy whose body was recovered from a river early Saturday.

Police: Safety lapse likely caused Sri Lanka blast

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Improperly stored detonators are likely to have triggered a dynamite explosion that killed 25 people and injured dozens in eastern Sri Lanka, police said. Three containers of explosives used for road construction exploded Friday inside a police compound, destroying the police station and a nearby agriculture office crowded with farmers. A police officer involved in the investigation said Saturday the detonators were stored together with dynamite in one of the containers and may have been accidentally activated by a worker who was removing them for the day's work.

World

Pope ends UK visit with beatification of convert

LONDON (AP)—Pope Benedict XVI wraps up his visit to Britain with the beatification Sunday of Cardinal John Henry Newman, the 19th century Anglican convert held up by the pope as a model for the faithful because he followed his conscience at great personal cost.

Newman is admired by many Catholics and Anglicans alike and his influence on both churches is enormous. Yet his defection from the Church of England in 1845 still rankles some in that he abandoned Anglicanism because he realized the truth he was searching could only be found in the Catholic faith.

Benedict praised Newman on the eve of his beatification at a prayer vigil in London's Hyde Park that drew an estimated 80,000 people—a significant turnout given Catholics represent only 10 percent of the population in this deeply secular country.

The vigil capped a busy day for the pontiff, his third in Britain: He met with four women and a man who were molested by priests as children, told British Catholics at a Mass in Westminster Cathedral he was ashamed by such "unspeakable" crimes and said he hoped the humiliation the church feels will help victims and the church alike heal.

AP
Pope Benedict XVI greets residents and workers at St Peter's Residence, in London Saturday Sept 18, 2010. The pope is on a four-day visit to England and Scotland.

As Benedict met with the victims, thousands of people marched through central London to protest his visit, angered by the abuse scandal as well as Benedict's hard line against gays, abortion, women's ordination and using condoms to fight AIDS. It was the biggest demonstration ever against Benedict in his 5-year papacy.

But a few hours later he was warmly welcomed in Hyde Park by British faithful from every diocese in the nation for a prayer vigil for Newman's beatification, which Benedict will celebrate Sunday in Birmingham.

Bermuda braces for Hurricane Igor; Karl dissipates

HAMILTON, Bermuda (AP)—Tourists caught the last flights out of Bermuda and locals stocked up on emergency supplies Saturday preparing for Hurricane Igor, while Mexicans mourned at least seven killed by Hurricane Karl.

An extremely dangerous Category 4 hurricane earlier in the week, Igor was still a Category 2 storm, and officials warned that its pounding rains and driving winds could be deadly.

"This storm will be a long and punishing one," Public Safety Minister David Burch said. "The potential for injury and physical damage is great."

High surf kicked up by the storm has already swept two people out to sea in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, far to the south.

Several people stared mesmerized at the 12- to 15-foot waves (4- to 5-meter waves), including Peter Mills, 44, who took his wife and two children to John Smith's Bay Park to watch.

"It's absolutely spectacular, but it's probably going to be absolutely horrifying come the next couple of days," Mills said.

In Mexico, meanwhile, the remnants of Hurricane Karl soaked south-central portions of the country as authorities sent helicopters to rescue dozens of people stranded by flooding and hunt for others feared washed away.

At least seven fatalities were reported. A 61-year-old woman and a 2-year-old girl died when a landslide buried a house in the town of Nextiapan in Puebla state. In Veracruz state, a woman and two young children were swept away by a rushing river in Cotaxtla and two women were found dead in Felipe Carrillo.

Tropical-storm-force winds were forecast to start battering Bermuda Saturday night, with the hurricane expected to pass directly overhead or nearby late Sunday or early Monday, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami.

WORLD BRIEFS

Clinton urges Iran to reject military expansion

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is urging the people of Iran to reject what she says is an expansion of the Iranian military's role and power. Clinton says the United States is increasingly concerned about the rise of military power in Iran, the main U.S. adversary in the Middle East. In an interview airing Sunday, Clinton says many inside Iran are worried too. And she tells ABC's "This Week" that she hopes Iranians find a way to head off the military drift. She says that Iran was founded as a republic, and that she hopes responsible Iranians will find a way to "take hold of the apparatus of the state."

Gunmen kidnap 9 Mexican state lawmen, 2 found dead

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP)—Gunmen kidnapped nine police officers investigating a death in the southern Mexican state of Guerrero, and the bodies of two of the lawmen were found later, authorities said Saturday. Fernando Monreal Leyva, director of the State Investigative Police, said one of his agency's commanders and a team of eight agents had gone to identify and recover a body in a northern part of the state Friday. He said contact was lost with the group that afternoon, and officials learned the officers had been seized by an unknown gang of gunmen. Searchers found the bodies of two officers near El Revelado, the community where the police group was kidnapped, Monreal said. He said the Mexican army was helping police search for the other missing officers.

Polls: Swedish government poised for re-election

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Sweden's center-right government heads into Sunday's election with a commanding lead in the polls but could lose its majority if an Islam-bashing far-right group makes it into Parliament. Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt's coalition has been boosted by popular tax cuts and healthy public finances that stand out in debt-ridden Europe, and polls suggest a clear victory over the opposition Red-Green bloc. Reinfeldt, however, also needs voters to deny the anti-immigration Sweden Democrats a kingmaker role. "Those who like Sweden do not vote for the Sweden Democrats," Reinfeldt, 45, said at a campaign rally Saturday. He urged voters to keep the party out of Parliament to ensure his four-party alliance can maintain its majority.

Health & Fitness

Working while sick? Study finds even doctors do it

LINDSEY TANNER
AP MEDICAL WRITER

CHICAGO (AP)—Junior doctors quickly learn that exposure to patients' germs is part of the job, but a study suggests many are returning the favor. More than half of doctors in training said in a survey that they'd shown up sick to work, and almost one-third said they'd done it more than once.

Misplaced dedication and fear of letting other doctors down are among reasons the researchers cited as possible explanations.

Dr. Anupam Jena, a medical resident at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, developed food poisoning symptoms halfway through an overnight shift last year, but said he didn't think he was contagious or that his illness hampered his ability to take care of patients.

Jena, a study co-author, said getting someone else to take over his shift on short notice "was not worth the cost of working while a bit sick." He was not among the survey participants.

The researchers analyzed an anonymous survey of 537 medical residents at 12 hospitals around the country conducted last year by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. The response rate was high; the hospitals were not identified.

The results appear in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

Nearly 58 percent of the respondents said they'd worked at least once while sick and 31 percent said they'd worked more than once while sick in the previous year.

About half said they hadn't had time to see a doctor about their illness.

Dr. Thomas Nasca, the accreditation council's CEO, said residents are trained to put patients' needs above their own but also should recognize that if they're sick, their patients' would be better served by having another doctor take care of them.

Residents' hands-on postgraduate training is rigorous and demanding. Many work up to 80 hours a week and sometimes 24 hours a day in hospitals. The atmosphere in some programs is ultra-competitive, and residents may work while sick because they don't want to be seen as slackers, Jena said.

The council, which accredits hospital residency programs, has proposed revisions on residents' work hours and time off to reduce sleep deprivation and the chances for medical errors. The work week limit would remain at 80 hours.

The revisions, to be voted on by the council's board later this month, also call for residents and faculty not to ignore signs of illness and fatigue in themselves and colleagues and make sure that they're fit for duty. That might help reduce the reporting-while-sick problem, said study co-author Dr. Vineet Arora, associate director of the University of Chicago's internal medicine residency program.

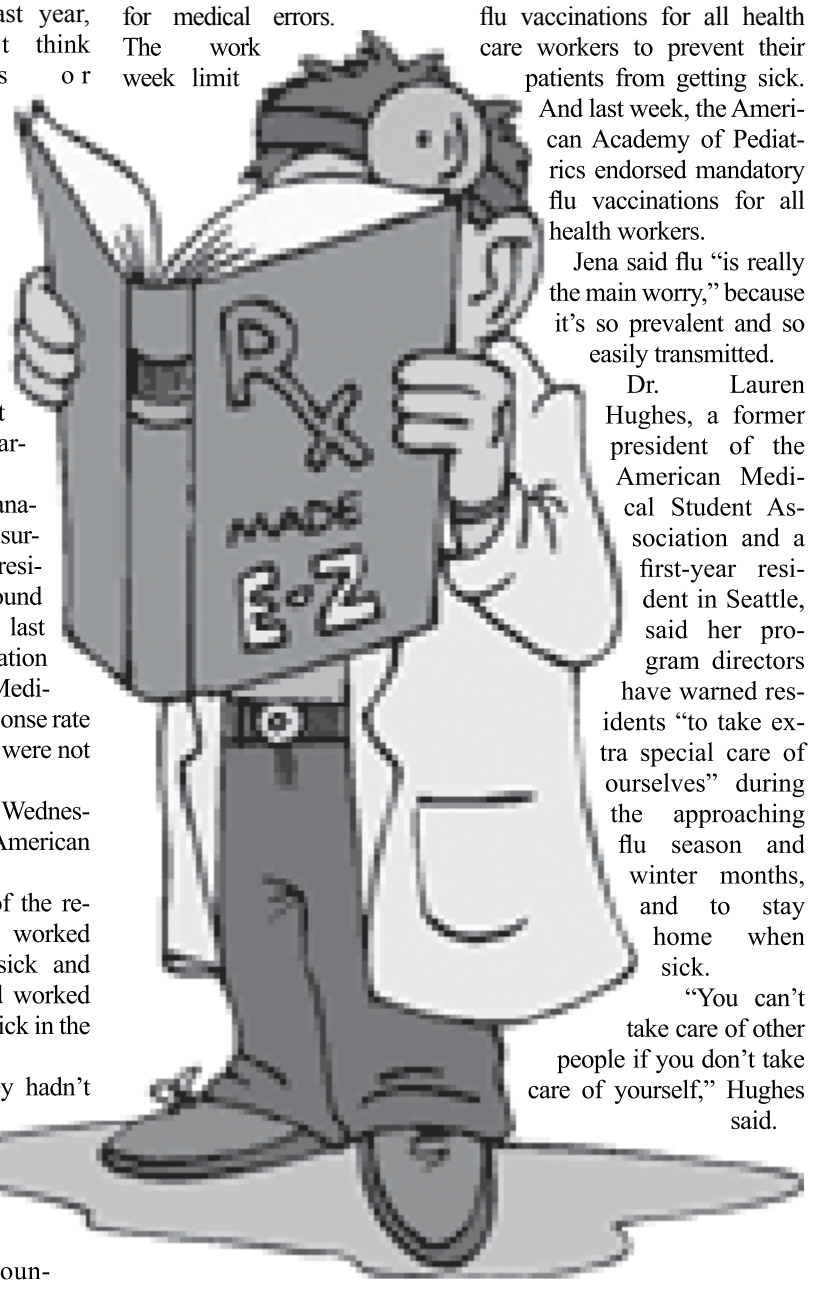
A growing push to require flu shots for health workers also could help reduce the number of junior doctors who work while sick.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention strongly recommends annual flu vaccinations for all health care workers to prevent their patients from getting sick. And last week, the American Academy of Pediatrics endorsed mandatory flu vaccinations for all health workers.

Jena said flu "is really the main worry," because it's so prevalent and so easily transmitted.

Dr. Lauren Hughes, a former president of the American Medical Student Association and a first-year resident in Seattle, said her program directors have warned residents "to take extra special care of ourselves" during the approaching flu season and winter months, and to stay home when sick.

"You can't take care of other people if you don't take care of yourself," Hughes said.



Vaccinations are high, but measles shots decline

ATLANTA (AP)—Health officials say vaccination rates for toddlers remain high, but they are concerned about an overall drop in measles vaccinations.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Thursday released a report showing vaccination rates for children ages 19 through 35 months, based in part on a 2009 telephone survey of parents of more than 17,000 children. More than 90 percent received most routine vaccines, and more than 99 percent got at least one.

ON THE NET
CDC report: http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr

But the rate for the measles-mumps-rubella combination vaccine dropped from 92 percent in 2008 to 90 percent—a concern, given a recent increase in U.S. measles cases. The rate for the vaccine against whooping cough also was down slightly, but health officials believe getting boosters to teens, adults and people who are around infants is a more important way to attack a recent whooping cough outbreak in California.

Life & Style

Sienna and Savannah Miller design catwalk show

Twenty8Twelve designers Sienna, right, and Savannah Miller, pose for photographers backstage, at London Fashion Week, in London, Saturday, Sept. 18, 2010. AP

LONDON (AP)—You had to use your imagination to see the influence of Joni Mitchell, Jack Kerouac and director Wim Wenders in the impressive catwalk show by actress Sienna Miller and designing sister Savannah Miller at London Fashion Week Saturday.

But those were the inspirations the unique designing team of Twenty8Twelve cited for their spring and summer 2011 collection, a focal point of Saturday's shows on Day Two of fashion week.

The crowd at the Old Sorting Office in central London seemed to include an unusually high number of young blonde women who styled their hair exactly like Sienna Miller—blonde and slightly wild, often parted down the middle.

Even the models used the Sienna hairstyle and big sunglasses to give them the casual, glamorous look associated with the actress, who has starred in "Factory Girl," "Layer Cake" and other major films.

Known for creating a sexy rock chick look, Sienna and Savannah Miller did not disappoint their fans, winning over the crowd with slinky mini-dresses, tight black cocktail dresses, and a series of jersey outfits, some with revealing cutaways.

They offered a slouchy, comfortable look. There was a denim minidress with pink frilly details at the bottom, like a puffed up petticoat, and some lovely lacework and antique embroidery embellished other outfits as well.

Still, it was difficult to see the "our girl in the Nevada dessert" theme mentioned in the sisters' publicity package, although there were many earthy tones in the collection.

Afterward, Savannah Miller—pronouncing herself exhausted and ready to rush home and see her kids—said she took some of her inspiration from early color photographs by Paul Oterbridge from that remote region of America, and from the films and books that depict it.

"I just love the colors, it's really nothing more than that," she said. Their mission statement cited Kerouac's landmark beat novel "On the Road" as a major influence, along with Mitchell's "Don Juan's Reckless Daughter" album.

Actor Jude Law, Sienna Miller's on-again-off-again sweetheart, pronounced the show a success after viewing it from a front-row perch.

"I don't know how she finds the time to do it, but she spends lots and lots of time designing," said Law, who particularly admired a short black cocktail dress and another outfit that features a white shirt styled with a small cape on the back.

Some of the outfits were deceptively simple, like a plain white tee paired with blue shirts and an undecorated white, lacy minidress with a narrow black belt. There were a few denim shirts, suggestive of the American West theme.

The sisters drew heavy applause when they walked out hand in hand at the end of the show to briefly wave to the crowd.

TOPSHOP UNIQUE

Topshop Unique went for a flamboyant, crystal coated collection, turning the disused Eurostar terminal in London's Waterloo Station into a 2010 version of Studio 54.

Heavily applied crystal detail glittered on the bodies of dresses and sheer trains glided behind the strutting models, who floated down the catwalk in flares and breezy caftans that looked straight out of the 1970s. Each model was given an afro style hair do with candy colored highlights, while the shoes they wore were sky high, perspex platforms.

A pregnant Lily Allen sat in the front row, snapping her favorite looks.

Leibovitz portrait of John and Yoko up for auction

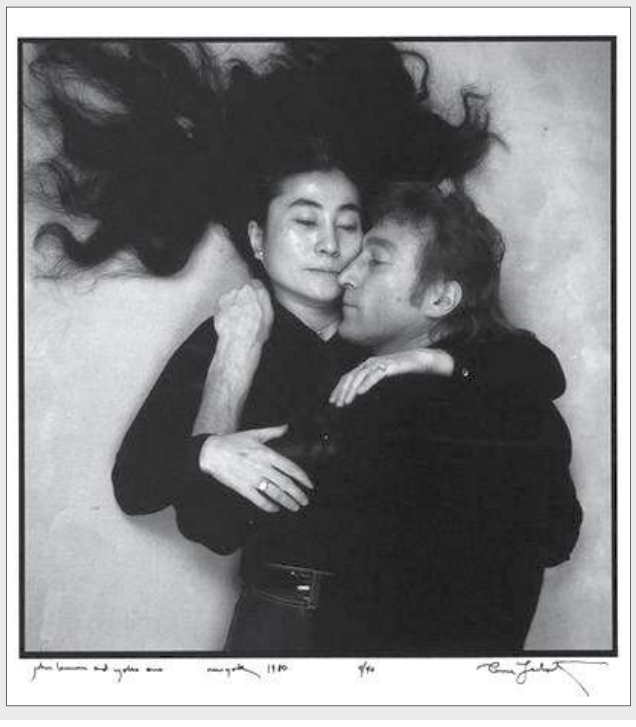
NEW YORK (AP)—A photo that Annie Leibovitz took of John Lennon shortly before he was killed is going up for auction in New York City.

The photo was taken in December 1980 for Rolling Stone magazine. It shows Ono and her husband embracing while reclining.

It is not the famous photo on the cover featuring a nude Lennon with a clothed Yoko Ono.

It's one of 40 copies and is expected to bring $10,000 to $15,000 at Swann Auction Galleries on Oct. 19.

The photo is being sold by a private collector and is not part of Leibovitz's highly publicized settlement over her debts and rights to her own work.



This photo provided by Swann Auction Galleries shows John Lennon and Yoko Ono in December 1980 on the last day of Lennon's life. AP

James Bacon, columnist to the stars, dies at 96

AP

This undated image provided by the Bacon family shows James Bacon, who died Saturday Sept. 18, 2010 in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—James Bacon, who began his career at The Associated Press in the 1940s and spent six decades chronicling Hollywood's biggest stars as a reporter, author and syndicated columnist, died Saturday. He was 96.

Bacon died in his sleep of congestive heart failure at his Northridge home, according to family friend Stan Rosenfield.

As a reporter for the AP for 23 years and later as columnist for the now-defunct Los Angeles Herald Examiner, Bacon had a knack for befriending A-list celebrities. He palled around with John Wayne, shared whisky with Frank Sinatra, was a confidant of Marilyn Monroe and met eight U.S. presidents.

"They just trusted him," Rosenfield said. "If you look at the people he was friendly with—Sinatra, Elizabeth Taylor—these were people who didn't always have friendly relationships with the press."

Bacon accompanied Taylor's physician to her home to break the news of the death of her third husband, Mike Todd, in a plane crash. After filing his story with the AP, Bacon, the only reporter in the house, briefed the mob of reporters outside, Rosenfield said.

Posing as a coroner, he once made his way past a police barricade to get Lana Turner's firsthand account of the fatal stabbing of her lover Johnny Stompanato by her daughter Cheryl Crane.

Operating during an era when press agents posed few restrictions and alcohol flowed freely, Bacon often found himself drinking with the subjects of his stories. Rosenfield said reporters and columnists from competing newspapers were often ordered never to leave an event until Bacon did.

"They had to stay at the party until he left. He would hang out, and get the story at 2 a.m.," Rosenfield said.

After a St. Patrick's Day lunch with John Wayne went into the night, the pair hired a taxi to take them from Los Angeles to see the famed swallows return to Capistrano. After arriving at the Southern California mission in the early morning, a priest told them they were a week early. They took the taxi back to LA.

Years later, Bacon broke the story of Wayne's cancer.

"Jim always made you feel like ... he was a pal looking to hang out," Clint Eastwood once said of Bacon.

He spent 18 years at the Herald Examiner and then went on to write books. He wrote three best-sellers, "Hollywood Is a Four Letter Town," "Made in Hollywood" and Jackie Gleason's autobiography "How Sweet It Is," which he co-authored.

Most recently, he wrote a weekly column about Hollywood's golden years for the glossy magazine Beverly Hills 213, where his last piece appeared in June.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Goetzmann dies

DALLAS (AP)—William H. Goetzmann, who won the Pulitzer Prize in history in 1967 for his book "Exploration and Empire," which looked at journeys exploring the American West in the 19th century, has died. He was 80.

Goetzmann, a longtime University of Texas at Austin professor, died Sept. 7 from congestive heart failure at his home in Austin, his son, William N. Goetzmann, told The Associated Press on Friday.

William H. Goetzmann taught at the University of Texas at Austin for more than 40 years before retiring in 2005.

"He was a brilliant man. He was very much an enthusiast about ideas and research, but also an enthusiast about reaching a broader group of people. He was interested about sharing his enthusiasm with the public," said his son, a finance professor at Yale School of Management who co-authored a book with his father on the art of the American West called "The West of the Imagination" that was turned into a PBS series in 1985.

William H. Goetzmann also released a book just last year called "Beyond the Revolution," which explores the ideas of America's great thinkers from 1776 to 1900.

His book "Exploration and Empire" also won the Francis Parkman Prize in 1967, an award given by the Society of American Historians for the best nonfiction book on America.

In a 1966 review of "Exploration and Empire" in the New York Times, David Lavender said that by explaining the exploration of the American West as a systematic process, Goetzmann "has achieved a feat of historical discovery as notable in its own way as were some of the physical excursions into the West that he describes so well."

Lavender also notes that the book is written with "uncluttered, nonacademic, interesting and unpretentious prose."

Steven Hoelscher, who read Goetzmann's book "Exploration and Empire" as a graduate student and then worked with him at UT, called the book "encyclopedic."

"The care with primary sources that went into it is something that we all try to obtain," said Hoelscher, chair of the American studies department at UT and a professor of American studies.

The book, he said, showed that the exploration of the American West was "a process of state-building" by the U.S.

Goetzmann, who was born July 20, 1930, in Washington, D.C., and who grew up in St. Paul, Minn. before moving to Houston as a teenager, earned a doctorate at Yale University and taught there before going to the University of Texas, where he was chair of the history department for one year and chair of the American studies department for 16 years.

"A trailblazer in more than his writings and classrooms, he was instrumental in integrating the faculty of the university by recruiting some of the first black professors to the College of Arts and Sciences," the Texas school said in a statement.

We, the family, would like to inform all relatives and friends that our beloved

Eileen Olopai Pellegrino

has joined our Creator on Sunday, September 19, 2010.

In her new life she now joins her:

Father: †Abel Rabauliman Olopai
Brothers: †Titus Olopai & †Jude Olopai
Sister: †Helen Olopai

Her memory will live forever in the hearts of:

Spouse: Anthony Pellegrino
Children: Abel Vincenzo, Julian Apollonius, Prunella Leimopi Olopai Pellegrino

Mother: *Carmen Kotomor Olopai*

Sisters and Spouses:

Shirley & Dan Santos (Richly), Delfina & Michael Outland {Carmen (Jenna & Michael), Pfc Christopher}, Irene & Joseph Borja (Xavier & Joshua), Jean & Mark Rabauliman (Sophia Miley), Cyrus Diego Solberg, Carnesia & June Rivera, Alana, Leina, Judith, Jude Jr. & Tatiana Olopai

She will also be missed by Mr. & Mrs. Margaret Pellegrino (Andrew & Regina Morishigi)/Gilbert Ranjo (Tiana & Andrea), Neil & Wife Pellegrino, Aunts, Uncles and Cousins.

Please join us in our daily 6:00am Mass at Kristo Rai Church from September 20th until September 25th.

On Tuesday, September 21, 2010 the viewing will be at Cabrera Funeral Home from 5:00pm to 8:00pm

Last respect for †Eileen will be held at Mount Carmel Cathedral on Wednesday, September 22, 2010, 10:00am followed by burial.

THE FAMILY

DA: Paris Hilton to avoid felony in Vegas arrest

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Paris Hilton has agreed to plead guilty to two misdemeanors stemming from her arrest last month at a Las Vegas resort, a Nevada prosecutor said.

Under the terms of a plea deal worked out with prosecutors, the celebrity heiress will serve a year of probation and avoid a felony conviction, Clark County District Attorney David Roger said Friday.

A plea agreement obtained by the Las Vegas Review-Journal shows Hilton will plead guilty to drug possession and obstructing an officer. She must complete a drug abuse program, pay a $2,000 fine and serve 200 hours of community service.

Hilton, 29, was arrested Aug. 26 inside the Wynn resort, after police say a small plastic bag containing 0.8 grams of cocaine fell out of her Chanel purse as she reached for a tube of lip balm in front of a police lieutenant.

Roger and defense attorney David Chesnoff confirmed the details of the plea deal reported by the Review-Journal. The original felony cocaine possession charge would not have resulted in any jail time.

Roger said he wanted to obtain a pledge from the hotel heiress to stay out of trouble, and said the plea deal accomplished that goal.

AP

This file photo released Saturday, Aug. 28, 2010 by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department shows Paris Hilton in a police booking photo in Las Vegas.

"If she is arrested for anything besides a minor traffic violation she will spend a year in jail," Roger said. "There will be no discussion. The court will have no discretion."

Chesnoff said the agreement does not call for Hilton to be assigned a probation officer, meaning she can't break any laws but won't have anyone to report to or check in with.

"Ms. Hilton understands the seriousness of the situation and appreciates the chance she is being given," Chesnoff told The Associated Press. "She has to stay out of trouble."

Hilton initially told police the purse and cocaine were not hers, but claimed some items in the bag, including rolling papers, $1,300 in cash and several credit cards.

She was questioned by police after her boyfriend, Las Vegas nightclub mogul Cy Waits, 34, failed field sobriety tests given by a motorcycle officer.

The couple was stopped in a black Cadillac Escalade after the officer smelled a "vapor trail" of marijuana smoke.

Hilton was banned from two Wynn resorts on the Las Vegas Strip after the arrest, and her boyfriend was dismissed as a nightclub partner.

Hilton briefly faced a marijuana charge in July after a FIFA World Cup match in South Africa, but the case was dropped when a woman who was with her pleaded guilty to possessing the drug.

Hilton is scheduled to appear at 7:30 a.m. Monday before Judge Joe M. Bonaventure, Chesnoff said.

Jury awards $40,000 in damages in Kid Rock case

AP

Robert James Ritchie, also known as Kid Rock, testifies, Thursday, Sept. 16, 2010, in a civil trial in Decatur, Ga., which a man claims Ritchie and members of his entourage beat him during an early-morning fight at a Waffle House in October 2007.

DECATUR, Ga. (AP)—A suburban Atlanta jury awarded $40,000 Friday to a man who says musician Kid Rock and his entourage beat him and smashed his cell phones during a 2007 fight at a Waffle House restaurant.

Harlen Akins sued Kid Rock, whose real name is Robert James Ritchie, and five members of his entourage over the fight. DeKalb County State Court Judge Johnny Panos on Thursday dismissed two of the defendants.

Akins sought $6,000 in medical fees and an unspecified amount in punitive damages. The jury decided not to award punitive damages, but gave him $40,000 in compensatory damages.

The jury saw a lot of provocation from both sides and couldn't attribute blame completely to either, said the foreman, who declined to give his name.

He said $6,000 was granted for medical expenses, $700 for the market value of the two cell phones, and the rest for pain and suffering.

The damages will be divided among the four remaining defendants based on how much responsibility each was assigned. Kid Rock will pay 15 percent; his personal assistant James Murphy will pay 10 percent; his executive assistant Brian Lang will pay 5 percent; and his guitarist Jason Krause will pay 70 percent.

Krause was assessed more because he threw the first punch, the foreman said.

Akins was in court Friday, flanked by his lawyers, but the defendants were not there. The parties have 30 days to appeal.

Akins' lawyer Eric Hertz reiterated after the verdict that it wasn't about money. "We feel vindicated and we are very satisfied," he said.

William Horton, a lawyer for Kid Rock and his entourage, said many times during the trial that Akins was just trying to cash in because Kid Rock is rich and famous, and he repeated that Friday.

"As far as we were concerned it was just about money," he said.

The musician and his friends had sought to settle the matter without a trial, but the plaintiff demanded $2.9 million, Horton said.

Hertz said his firm had never demanded that, but it was possible the firm that handled the case before them did.

During five hours of deliberations, the jury asked to see a surveillance video of the fight again and asked the judge several questions.

The musician pleaded guilty in March 2008 to a misdemeanor charge of simple battery stemming from the melee.

The fight began shortly after 5 a.m. on Oct. 21, 2007, after Akins exchanged words with a woman in Kid Rock's party whom he had known for years.

Taraji, Terrence: Hollywood needs more minorities

NEW YORK (AP)—Taraji P. Henson agrees that minorities were not represented enough at the Emmys—and there are too few working in Hollywood.

Henson says "there were several times when I didn't even want to watch the Emmys because I mean, who am I looking at?"

Henson made the comments when asked on her thoughts about fellow actress Regina King's Sept. 3 blog post for the Huffington Post.

In it, the black actress criticizes the Emmys for underrepresenting minorities in its main categories. King also writes that she was offended after a member of the media confused her with actress Rutina Wesley of HBO's "True Blood." And she says she was hurt that late actress Alaine Reed Hall, best known for her role on "Sesame Street," was not among those recognized at this year's Emmys. Hall and King starred together on the 1980s show "227."

"I mean, she has a point," Henson said of King's blog post.

In the same interview, actor Terrence Howard says that Hollywood is changing, for the better.

"The truth is, the country still has a lot more growth it needs to make and in due time, I'm sure none of those questions will even be relevant anymore," Howard said, adding: "The whole country seems to have started toward a trend of equality and brotherhood."

AP

Actors Terrence Howard and Taraji P. Henson pose for a portrait Thursday, Sept. 16, 2010 in New York.

Henson interjected: "Hollywood hasn't."

"Hollywood just has to catch up," he responded. "Give them some time."

Henson and Howard starred together in 2005's "Hustle & Flow," which earned Howard an Oscar nomination for best actor. Henson was nominated for best supporting actress last year for her role in "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button."

The pair will return this year as hosts of the Soul Train Music Awards. The specials marks its second year back since taking a five-year hiatus. It airs on Centric and BET on Nov. 28.

Fire destroys Malibu beachfront home of Ricki Lake

MALIBU, Calif. (AP)—Authorities say Ricki Lake's beachfront rental home in Malibu has burned down.

Los Angeles County sheriff's officials say deputies answering a 911 call Saturday found the 41-year-old actress and talk show host, her two sons and their dog standing safely outside.

Firefighters put out the blaze in 20 minutes, but the home was destroyed.

Sheriff's Lt. Rich Erickson tells the Los Angeles Times that a couch caught fire when Lake was refueling a portable heater.

The blaze shut down a stretch of the Pacific Coast Highway for 90 minutes.

Lake starred in the movie "Hairspray" and later hosted a daytime talk show.

She has recently become an advocate for home birth, co-writing a book and producing a film on the subject.

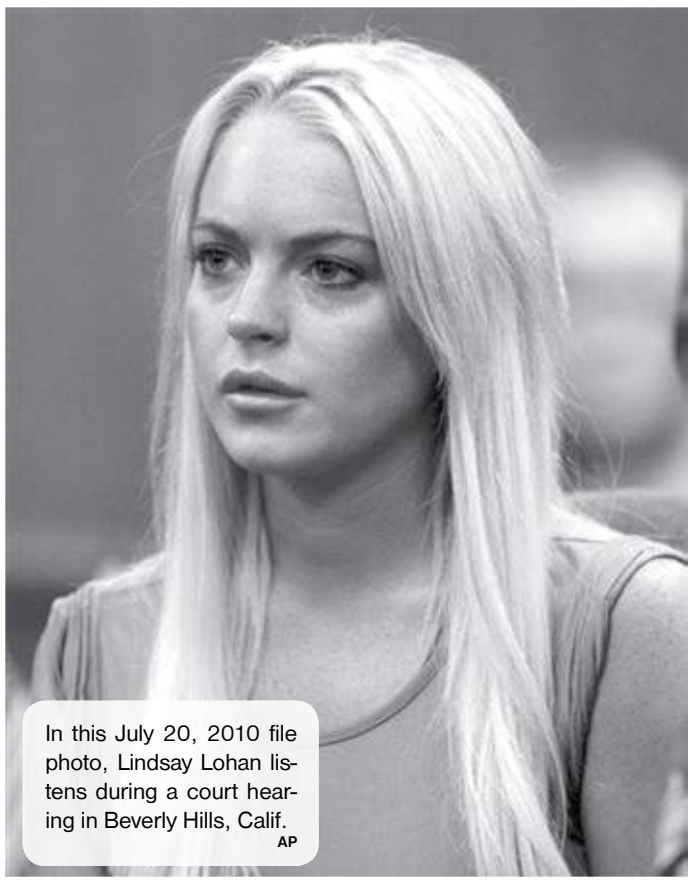
Lohan tweets she failed court-ordered drug test

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lindsay Lohan has confirmed on her Twitter page that she failed a court-ordered drug and alcohol screening, and she said that if asked, she is ready to appear before the judge in her case and face the consequences for her actions.

In a series of messages posted late Friday, the actress said "Regrettably, I did in fact fail my most recent drug test."

She also said, "Substance abuse is a disease, which unfortunately doesn't go away over night. I am working hard to overcome it." Lohan often posts updates with the account that's verified by Twitter as belonging to the actress.

A person familiar with the case, who declined to be identified because of the sensitivity of the matter, confirmed the positive test results for The Associated Press earlier Friday. The person declined to specify what substance triggered the positive result, which the source said occurred within the last month.



In this July 20, 2010 file photo, Lindsay Lohan listens during a court hearing in Beverly Hills, Calif.
AP

The failed drug test was first reported by TMZ.com.

The test result could mean a probation violation and more jail time for the 24-year-old actress. In July, Lohan was sentenced to three months in jail followed by three months in rehab after violating probation stemming from a pair of drug and driving under the influence cases filed after two arrests in 2007.

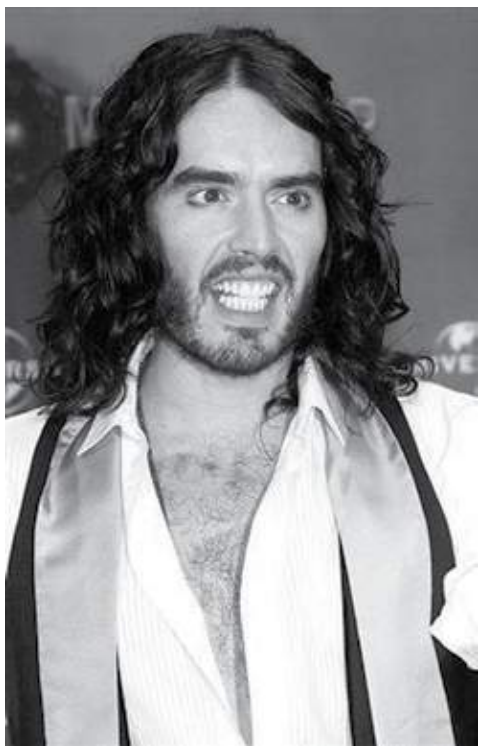
She ended up serving two weeks in jail and another 23 days in an inpatient rehab treatment at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

At a hearing last month, Fox ordered the actress to attend psychotherapy, drug and alcohol counseling as well as random drug and alcohol testing several times a week. Compliance would allow her to return to unsupervised probation in November.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Elden S. Fox had threatened Lohan with 30 days in jail for each probation violation.

A hearing would be conducted before Lohan could be returned to jail. Los Angeles County District Attorney spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons said no such hearing had been scheduled as of Friday afternoon.

Russell Brand arrested after airport altercation



AP
In this June 25, 2010 file photo, British actor Russell Brand poses during a photo-call to promote his movie "Get Him To The Greek" in Berlin.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Russell Brand has been arrested following an altercation with a photographer.

The 35-year-old British actor-comedian was taken into custody Friday at Los Angeles International Airport for a misdemeanor charge of simple battery, according to police.

Brand was booked at LAPD's Pacific Division and initially held on $20,000 bail. He was released later Friday on his own recognizance, Los Angeles Airport Police spokeswoman Belinda Nettles said.

The victim, a paparazzo who was not identified, placed Brand under citizen's arrest, Nettles said.

The alleged attack involving the two-time MTV Video Music Awards host and "Get Him to the Greek" star was first reported by TMZ, which posted video of the altercation that occurred as Brand and his fiancee, "California Gurls" singer Katy Perry, were surrounded by paparazzi as they entered the terminal that houses Delta.

Brand's publicists did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

Back in England, Brand has built a reputation for his drug-addled past and hedonistic tendencies, and he's sought treatment for drug addiction and sex addiction. He detailed his storied history in his 2007 memoir "My Booky Wook." Brand is next set to star as Trinculo in a version of "The Tempest" and the title character in a remake of "Arthur."

'Idol' contestant Adam Lambert accused of battery

AP
In this Feb. 16, 2010 file photo, Adam Lambert attends the G-Star Fall 2010 collection, in New York.

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Former American Idol contestant Adam Lambert is accused of simple battery on a photographer on Miami Beach. A police report says 38-year-old Victor Eras was taking pictures of the singer Thursday when Lambert started running toward him "in an aggressive manner."

Eras claims Lambert grabbed his back pack and wrestled him to the ground. The photographer did not suffer any injuries. He declined to comment to The Associated Press on Friday.

No arrests were made. A police spokesman says there will not be an investigation. The state attorney's office will review the report and decide if any charges will be filed. TMZ first reported the alleged attack.

Lambert's publicist did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

Whitfield leaves 'Spartacus' for 2nd cancer battle

NEW YORK (AP)—Starz network says "Spartacus: Blood and Sand" star Andy Whitfield is leaving the show to battle a recurrence of cancer.

Production of the "Spartacus" series' second season was postponed this spring when Whitfield was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma. The cable television network said Whitfield was responding well to treatment, but the cancer has returned.

The British-born Whitfield played the gladiator hero in the show's breakout first season.

The network said co-stars Lucy Lawless and John Hannah would take center stage for a six-episode prequel leading up to Spartacus' arrival. It will air beginning in January.

In a statement, Whitfield expressed regret at leaving the series while describing his cancer battle "as another extraordinary journey."

AP
In this Jan. 21, 2010 file photo, actor Andy Whitfield attends a screening of "Extraordinary Measures" hosted by The Cinema Society in New York.

Son thinks dad's obituary leaves out important survivor

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My father just passed away. He was a pastor. He and Mom were married 40 years, but their relationship became very strained during the last 10. Counseling was unsuccessful and they divorced 15 years ago. Dad was hurt and humiliated by it. Mom felt she had to escape a marriage that was killing her emotionally.

I received a draft of Dad's obituary from my two siblings. It mentions all surviving relatives except my mother, who is still alive and living in the same town where she and Dad spent most of their lives together. I feel omitting her is a slap in the face, but my sister says that because they were divorced, Mom "deserves" no mention. What is protocol in such a situation?

SURVIVING SON IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR SON: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your father. While your sister may have said it in a way that seemed judgmental, she is technically correct. After a couple divorces and one of them dies, the name of the former spouse is usually not mentioned in the obituary.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I had a suspicion that my wife's attentiveness to a neighbor was more than casual. He's a womanizer who boasts about his extramarital affairs to anyone who will listen.

I noticed some marks on my wife's body, and when I asked how she'd gotten them, her response was evasive. I found it so off-putting that I installed surveillance cameras in our house.

The cameras revealed in detail what has been going on. Our family and friends think my wife is prim and proper. It turns out she is anything but. In fact, I'm no longer sure I fathered our children.

Would it be wrong to send copies of her video activities to everyone so they can see who she really is?

SAD AND ANGRY IN EAST TEXAS

DEAR ANGRY: No one would blame you if you ended the marriage, but for your children's sake, do not yield to the temptation to get even with your wife in this way. Making the tapes public could cause them emotional harm. Talk to a lawyer. Have genetic tests run to determine your children's paternity, but do not make the tapes public.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm 17. My girlfriend of eight months and I have an incredible relationship, but something is eating at me. She often mentions things she did with her past boyfriends. It's not like she's telling stories about the "good old days," but the fact that I hear their names in everyday conversation bothers me.

I want to be understanding because these guys were a big part of her life when they were in it. But I'm tired of hearing their current whereabouts or what they used to talk about. How can I get her to leave the past behind?

IN THE "NOW" IN ALAMEDA, CALIF.

DEAR IN THE "NOW": Your girlfriend may not be aware of what she's doing and the effect it has on you. Tell her how her constant reminders of past relationships make you feel. If she cares about your feelings, she'll stop doing it.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

LET'S START AT THE BEGINNING. WHEN YOU ADD SOMETHING, YOU INCREASE WHAT YOU HAVE. YOU COMBINE.
I DON'T WANT TO LEARN THIS! IT'S COMPLETELY IRRELEVANT TO MY LIFE!
THIS ISN'T IRRELEVANT. EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW THIS.
I DON'T! I CAN GET ALONG FINE WITHOUT MATH!
OH YEAH? WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP? EVERY JOB REQUIRES SOME MATH.
THAT'S NOT TRUE! I'LL BE A... A...
...A CAVEMAN! YEAH!
THAT'S NOT REALLY A JOB.
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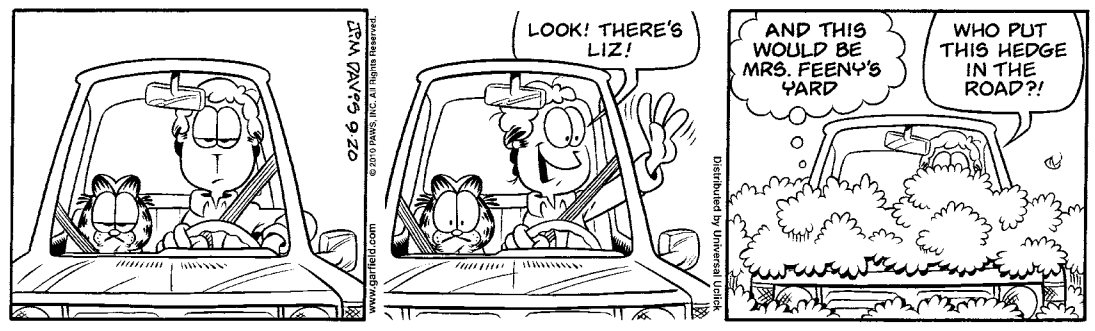
Garfield®

By Jim Davis


JIM DAVIS 9 20
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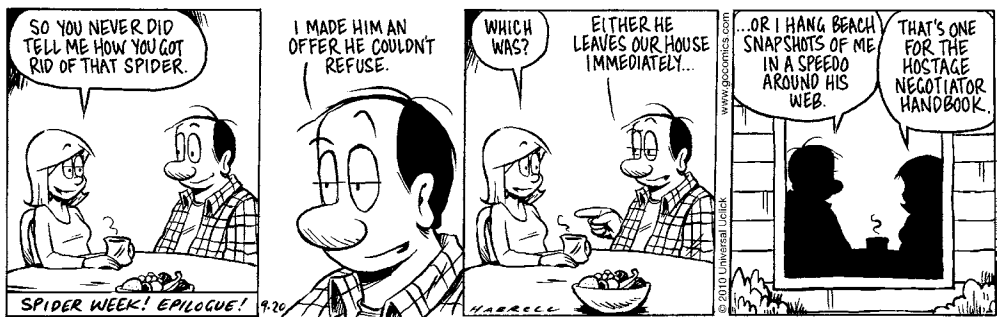
www.garfield.com
LOOK! THERE'S LIZ!
AND THIS WOULD BE MRS. FEENY'S YARD
WHO PUT THIS HEDGE IN THE ROAD?!
Distributed by Universal Uclick

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SO YOU NEVER DID TELL ME HOW YOU GOT RID OF THAT SPIDER.
I MADE HIM AN OFFER HE COULDN'T REFUSE.
WHICH WAS?
EITHER HE LEAVES OUR HOUSE IMMEDIATELY...
...OR I HANG BEACH SNAPSHOTS OF ME IN A SPEEDO AROUND HIS WEB.
THAT'S ONE FOR THE HOSTAGE NEGOTIATOR HANDBOOK.
SPIDER WEEK! EPILOGUE!
9-20
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The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

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You're missing out on a lot of great life experiences.
WHAT CHANNEL?
www.gocomics.com
9/20

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

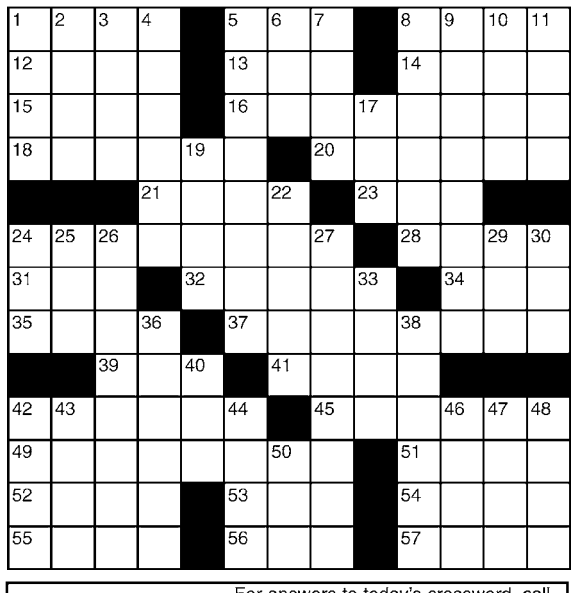
ACROSS
1 Ocho-cinco of the NFL
5 Half a score
8 Slam-dance
12 Tax
13 "— Little Teapot"
14 Busy with
15 Ugandan despot
16 One of the Caesars
18 Render weapon-less
20 Broken-bone support
21 Tsp. or tbsp.
23 [With errors un-changed]
24 Monarch with limitless power
28 Pinches
31 Eisen-hower
32 Forest trees
34 Rd.
35 Reps.' rivals
37 Group of specta-tors
39 Energy
41 "Grease" actress Conn
42 Showed off the muscles
45 Country
49 Viennese, for instance
51 Base runner's goal
52 Assess
53 Needle hole
54 Rams' mates
55 Has to
56 Aachen article
57 Carry on

DOWN
1 Dressed (in)
2 Half (Pref.)
3 Bird, to Brutus
4 Forceful person
5 Jamaican coffee liqueur
6 Ostrich's cousin
7 Com-plains constantly
8 Curtain fabric
9 One with a lot of con-tacts?
10 Dazzle
11 Emcee
17 Boom times
19 LP's and CD's (Abbr.)
22 Health (Sp.)
24 Help
25 43-Down music-maker
26 Storms
27 Swanson product
29 Insulation material, for short
30 Witness
33 Verdi opera
36 Two trios
38 This or that, it doesn't matter which
40 Apiece
42 Mac-Donald's place
43 Waikiki wingding
44 Conked out
46 "The Music Man" setting
47 Portent
48 Bird's home
50 Nay opposer

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	D	O	T	E	D	■	S	P	A	R	K	S
H	E	A	R	S	E	■	O	R	I	E	N	T
A	C	R	O	S	S	■	R	O	D	N	E	Y
M	O	S	T	■	C	R	E	W	■	E	W	E
■	■	■	H	A	R	E	■	L	A	G	■	■
W	D	S	■	M	I	C	A	■	S	A	N	D
H	A	P	P	Y	B	I	R	T	H	D	A	Y
O	G	R	E	■	E	P	E	E	■	E	Y	E
■	■	I	N	K	■	E	T	N	A	■	■	■
A	P	T	■	R	U	S	H	■	I	S	L	E
G	I	Z	M	O	S	■	U	L	S	T	E	R
O	C	E	A	N	S	■	S	A	L	U	T	E
G	A	R	N	E	R	■	A	M	E	N	S	■

Saturday's answer 9-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Juan Pablo Montoya, 35; Kristen Johnston, 43; Gary Cole, 54; Sophia Loren, 76

Happy Birthday: Socializing more will lead you to people willing to help you reach both personal and professional goals. Your creative imagination will allow you to come up with ideas that surprise others and show your potential to think outside the box. Don't limit what you can do. Your numbers are 6, 9, 23, 26, 30, 34, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Live moment-to-moment, striving to be and do your best without making a fuss. Productivity will be what counts. Self-deception is the enemy, self-reliance your best friend, and embracing change the road to victory. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take a lead position regarding reforms you want to see incorporated at work or within a group you belong to. Your insight, coupled with charm and a good plan will be enough to get others to follow your lead. Make sure you follow through. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't make a move based on your emotional insecurity. You will be better off working diligently, trying to finish the work you've been assigned. Too much complaining or negotiating will work against you. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Find out what's required and what's expected of you before you start working on something you may not be able to finish. Love is on the rise and spending time with someone you enjoy being with will enhance your relationship. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You will be pulled in different directions when it comes to partnerships, contracts and finances. Don't let anyone put pressure on you to make changes or do something differently. Arguments are likely to develop if you haven't honored the promises you've made. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Ask questions and show interest in what friends, relatives or neighbors are doing. Travel plans can be made that allow you to combine business with pleasure. Networking, conferences or setting up meetings will all lead to success. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't let depression hold you back. Look at the big picture and start to plan how you can use your skills to increase your income. A change of pace is heading your way. You have to stretch and diversify if you want to get anywhere. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Change is needed in order to bring about greater opportunities. Let the past go and move on. It's time to start anew and to make the most of what you still have. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Put your plans in motion but don't make waves at home or at work that will lead to setbacks. There will be a time to share your thoughts but now isn't one of them. Focus on what you know and what you can learn. A short trip will pay off. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You'll feel stifled by someone trying to take over or control what you do. Sidestep anyone trying to manipulate a situation. When it comes to any financial dealing, speak up and do your own negotiating. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You'll feel emotionally attached to someone or something. Don't let this need be your demise. You have to deal with whatever may hold you back. A love connection will be hard to deal with if you don't have the same life goals. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Take a look at your personal papers or go over investments or money ventures you are involved in with other people. You can collect old debts or take out a loan in order to invest. Changes at home will benefit you. Focus on increasing your income. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have a vivid imagination, can express your thoughts and are capable of using your creative skills to earn a living. You strive for perfection.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

1		7				8		5
	4			1			2	
8		9			5	1		3
		1	3		4			
	9			5			1	
			2		1	7		
2		5	7			3		1
	1			3			7	
7		6				9		4

Difficulty Level ★ 9/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

8	5	3	7	6	1	9	4	2
9	1	4	5	8	2	7	6	3
7	6	2	4	9	3	8	5	1
1	2	8	3	5	6	4	7	9
3	4	5	8	7	9	1	2	6
6	7	9	2	1	4	3	8	5
2	8	7	1	3	5	6	9	4
5	9	1	6	4	7	2	3	8
4	3	6	9	2	8	5	1	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/18

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

REP. CHARLIE WILSON (1933-2010) **Solution: 8 letters**

E	C	N	E	G	I	L	L	E	T	N	I	G	Y	B
L	E	A	D	E	R	Y	T	I	N	I	R	T	D	A
Y	C	A	R	C	U	A	E	R	U	B	N	R	W	T
T	I	O	L	U	F	K	I	N	E	E	O	E	O	T
S	T	F	N	B	O	O	K	T	M	N	P	N	R	L
E	A	F	A	G	E	O	A	N	A	A	O	E	E	E
F	R	I	V	D	R	R	R	T	K	G	V	G	D	C
I	C	C	A	T	E	E	S	I	A	O	B	A	A	N
L	O	E	L	B	V	I	S	T	C	R	I	D	S	A
S	M	R	I	O	N	T	N	S	A	H	A	E	U	T
C	E	L	G	A	A	E	M	V	M	D	A	W	R	S
I	D	E	H	N	P	Ⓗ	Ⓔ	Ⓡ	Ⓞ	A	T	N	C	I
T	E	G	A	R	E	V	O	C	R	A	N	K	K	S
N	F	L	A	M	B	O	Y	A	N	T	E	X	A	S
A	D	V	E	N	T	U	R	E	S	A	V	V	Y	A

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Last Saturday's Answer: Yankees

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JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-046	Trades Assistant	1	$11,036.00	Two-year	Water, Tinian
10-047	Accounting Assistant	1	$12,263.00	Two-year	Chief Financial Officer Div., Saipan

Opening Date: Friday, September 10, 2010 — **Closing Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2010**

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10-049	Compliance Officer	1	$27,921.00 - $36,297.00	Two-year	Admin. Office, Saipan
10-050	Information Technology (IT) Specialist	2	$19,425.00 - $25,981.00	Two-year	IT, Saipan
10-051	Information Analyst (IT) Analyst	2	$34,176.00 - $44,429.00	Two-year	IT, Saipan
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Patriots no slouches for Jets

NEW YORK (AP)—After failing to impress in an opening loss to Baltimore, the New York Jets receive no respite when they host the New England Patriots this weekend to resume one of the nastiest rivalries in the NFL.

The Jets couldn't run efficiently or pass with authority against the Baltimore Ravens in a 10-9 loss. New York's offense was so bad that the Ravens had the ball for more than 38 minutes, even though they managed only 49 yards rushing.

New England doesn't need to control the clock so much to control games. The Patriots can score very quickly, even against a highly regarded defense such as New York's.

Plus, the Jets might not have the offense in place to test a Patriots defense that is in transition. Mark Sanchez is supposed to take the next big step in his development in his second pro season, but he was a shaky quarterback against Baltimore.

"I wouldn't say I'm concerned," Sanchez said. "It's way too early to hit the panic button with the guys we have in this room on the offensive side of the ball."

There's been plenty of controversy generated between the teams over the years: From Bill Parcells to Bill Belichick to Curtis Martin to Eric Mangini and Spygate. There was an added touch this week between Randy Moss and Jets cornerback Darrelle Revis, whom the Patriots star receiver hopes to overrun with touchdown catches.

Revis called Moss a "slouch" during a word-association game on television in January. Not surprisingly, Moss didn't take kindly to that description and said Revis would get "60 minutes of this slouch" on Sunday.

"It's a heated rivalry, no question about it," said Jets right tackle Damien Woody, who also played for the Patriots from 1999-2003. "I think it would be even more intriguing if we could win the division because they've kind of dominated it for years."

The Manning brothers meet for the second time when big brother Peyton leads the Indianapolis Colts against little bro Eli and the visiting New York Giants. Peyton won the previous showdown in 2006, 26-21, in the first NFL meeting of siblings starting at quarterback.

As juicy as Manning vs. Manning might be, the game could be decided on the ground.

The Colts stumbled badly in their opener against Houston, only their second loss to the Texans in 17 meetings. They couldn't stop the run, and now they are missing key safety Bob Sanders (biceps surgery). Plus, their offensive line is something of a mishmash.

Look for the Giants to run Ahmad Bradshaw and Brandon Jacobs, and to count on their strong front four to get pressure on Peyton. But also watch for Colts tight end Dallas Clark to have a big day against New York's mediocre linebackers.

Brett Favre needs two touchdown passes against the Miami Dolphins to become the first player with 500, but the Minnesota Vikings quarterback looked ordinary against New Orleans without his favorite target, Sidney Rice.

It would be no surprise to see running back Adrian Peterson resume his previous position as the focal point of Minnesota's offense with multiple carries. While the Dolphins completely shut down Buffalo's runners last weekend, none of them resembled Peterson.

Backs Ronnie Brown and Ricky Williams combined for 127 yards and a touchdown in Miami's victory over Buffalo. Miami ran the ball 36 times and passed it 34, a rare occurrence in the glitzy, pass-first NFL of the 21st century. The Dolphins haven't had two straight road wins to start a season in 33 years.

Also on Sunday, it's Baltimore at Cincinnati, Pittsburgh at Tennessee, Chicago at Dallas, Buffalo at Green Bay, Philadelphia at Detroit, Houston at Washington, Arizona at Atlanta, Seattle at Denver, Jacksonville at San Diego, Kansas City at Cleveland, St. Louis at Oakland, and Tampa Bay at Carolina.

On Monday, New Orleans is at San Francisco.

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (12) watches as New England Patriots running back Laurence Maroney (39) pulls in one of Brady's passes during practice at the NFL football team's facility in Foxborough, Mass., Thursday afternoon, Sept. 9, 2010. AP

Lions lose some hope without a healthy Stafford

DETROIT (AP)—Hopes were relatively high for a change for the Detroit Lions just a week ago.

Matthew Stafford's golden right arm, an improved surrounding cast on offense and a strong defensive line were expected to make the Lions respectable after they won just twice in two seasons.

Then, Chicago Bears defensive end Julius Peppers hit Stafford in the back, drove his right shoulder into the ground and suddenly Detroit's optimistic fans have plenty to be glum about.

Second-year coach Jim Schwartz and his players, publicly at least, insist replacing Stafford with Shaun Hill hasn't altered their outlook.

"Before you make judgments about what our offense can't do without Matt, allow us to prove to you what we can do with Shaun," receiver Nate Burleson said. "If anything, I think we'll be more aggressive against Philly than we were at Chicago."

The Eagles also are turning to a backup QB—Michael Vick in place of banged-up starter Kevin Kolb—on Sunday at Ford Field in Detroit's home opener. Vick hasn't taken the first snap in a game since Dec. 31, 2006, when he was playing for Atlanta.

He didn't play the next two seasons because he served an 18-month sentence in federal prison for his role in a dogfighting operation. Vick slowly worked his way back into game shape last year, playing sparingly in 12 games, and last week looked a little like the electric Pro Bowler he was at times for the Falcons.

Philadelphia coach Andy Reid, though, said a concussion isn't going to change the pecking order of Kolb and Vick.

"Kevin knows he's the guy," Reid said. "I don't want to slight Michael at all in this because I am so happy for this kid and the progress that he's made since being incarcerated, in both life and on the football field. He's worked so stinking hard to get himself to this position.

Spoelstra not wrapped up in other opinions of Heat

MIAMI (AP)—Part of Erik Spoelstra's offseason time away from coaching included another trip halfway around the world to his native Philippines for some youth clinics and other events.

The 2010 visit wasn't like the one he made in 2009.

"The Miami Heat was a much different brand this summer," Spoelstra said.

Go figure, following an offseason where all the Heat did was re-sign Dwyane Wade, then lure two-time NBA MVP LeBron James, Chris Bosh and four other significant free agents to join a team with immediate eyes on a championship.

Added visibility was a given for the Heat after their almost-neverending series of major moves this offseason. It all hasn't been received as warmly as Spoelstra was when he visited his mother's homeland earlier this summer, of course, not with plenty of people both inside and outside the NBA—even some of Spoelstra's closest friends in the coaching fraternity—offering some sharp words for what Miami pulled off this summer.

"Every single franchise in this league, if they had the opportunity to sign three players the way we were able to, they would have without any hesitation," Spoelstra said Friday in an interview with The Associated Press. "So everything else that everybody is saying, at first it was hard for us to understand. But that's how this team is going to be viewed."

Spoelstra doesn't care much about all the fuss.

Wade, Heat president Pat Riley and several other people within the organization feel the same, so when training camp opens at Hurlburt Field on Sept. 28, one of the first objectives will be out of the way. Spoelstra would rather the Heat look at the season looming ahead, not the summer they'll be leaving behind.

"We have enough issues that we're focusing on," Spoelstra said.

Part of why the Heat are moving training camp to a pair of Air Force installations—Hurlburt Field and Eglin Air Force Base in Florida's Panhandle, roughly 650 miles or so from Miami's home arena—is the hope of limiting distractions during the first few days of practice.

Avoiding them this summer has been largely impossible. The Heat have been the talk of the league.

Riley said last week that the way Miami can "answer all the critics" is by showing up and doing what the Heat were built to do, that being contend for a title. He took issue after the signings of James and Bosh with things said by, among others, NBA analyst Charles Barkley, Orlando general manager Otis Smith and Magic coach Stan Van Gundy—a close friend of Spoelstra's and, like the current Heat coach, a former Riley protege.

Smith questioned James' competitiveness in July, shortly after he joined the Heat. Riley called that "stupid" last week, setting the stage for Van Gundy to fire back a day later.

Van Gundy told OrlandoMagic.com that "what Otis said wasn't a stupid remark. Unless of course you have a different opinion than Pat, then apparently it's stupid."

The war of words, for now, is ending with Spoelstra.

"I'm not going to comment on other teams," Spoelstra said. "And other teams have enough issues of their own to get ready for the season, without worrying about what we did or what we're doing, to keep them busy."

Spoelstra said he's most rested and ready for the coming season than either of his first two at Miami's helm, although that doesn't mean all the offseason work is done.

The playbook is still getting tinkered with. The team is checking to see if any other players might be available to help, although Spoelstra said Miami's current 18-man camp roster—three more than the maximum allowed during the season—is the one he's planning on having for the first practice. And Spoelstra is still working on what he'll say at the first formal team meeting of the new year.

That all aside, he's beyond eager to see what the Heat have.

"I wish training camp started three weeks ago," Spoelstra said.

Sabathia gets 20th win as Yanks rout Orioles

BALTIMORE (AP)—CC Sabathia became a 20-game winner for the first time in his stellar career, pitching the New York Yankees past the Baltimore Orioles 11-3 Saturday.

Sabathia (20-6) leads the majors in victories. He twice finished seasons with 19 wins, and succeeded this year in his third try at No. 20.

Sabathia already had a Cy Young pitching award, a World Series championship and several All-Star selections to his credit over 10 seasons. Winning 20 games was about the only thing missing on his pitching resume.

The big lefty allowed three runs on seven hits over seven innings for the American League East leaders. Sabathia, denied the milestone win in a home loss to the Orioles on Sept. 7, walked one and struck out four, improving to 14-2 all-time against Baltimore.

Robinson Cano and Curtis Granderson homered for the Yankees. Cano's two-run shot put the second baseman at 101 RBIs. That gave the Yankees three infielders with 100 or more RBIs in a single season for the first time in franchise history—first baseman Mark Teixeira and third baseman Alex Rodriguez previously reached the mark.

Jeremy Guthrie (10-14) took the loss.

AP

New York Yankees starting pitcher CC Sabathia delivers a pitch against the Baltimore Orioles during the seventh inning of a baseball game, Saturday, Sept. 18, 2010, in Baltimore.

Rays 4, Angels 3, 10 innings

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Carlos Pena hit a tying single with two outs in the ninth inning for Tampa Bay, then shortstop Brandon Wood's throwing error with two outs in the 10th lifted the Rays over Los Angeles.

The Rays stayed one-half game behind New York in the AL East, and continued to hold a sizable lead over Boston in the wild-card race.

Reid Brignac opened the Rays 10th with a double off Bobby Cassevah (0-2), and pinch-runner Jason Bartlett went on third on John Jaso's grounder.

Slumping Ben Zobrist walked, Carl Crawford popped out and Evan Longoria was intentionally walked to load the bases. Willy Aybar hit a grounder on a full-count pitch up the middle that Wood fielded, but he made a wild throw.

Blue Jays 4, Red Sox 3

At Boston, Jose Batista hit his major league-leading 49th homer, extending his own club record set one night earlier, as Toronto beat Boston.

Batista's homer in the first inning sailed over the Green Monster seats and into a parking lot across the street. The Blue Jays' slugger established the franchise home run record in Friday's win. George Bell held the previous mark with 47, set in 1987.

Ricky Romero (13-9) pitched six innings for the win. Kevin Gregg got three outs for his 33rd save.

Twins 4, Athletics 2

At Minneapolis, rookie Danny Valencia hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in the sixth inning, sending Kevin Slowey and AL Central-leading Minnesota over Oakland.

The Twins' magic number for clinching the division is five. They lead Chicago by 10 games.

Slowey (13-6) set a career high for wins, giving up two runs and five hits in 6 2-3 innings. Matt Capps earned his 40th save and 13th in 15 chances since coming to Minnesota.

Landon Powell homered and doubled for Oakland. Rookie Chris Carter kept struggling, going 0 for 2 with a pair of strikeouts—he is 0 for 29 with 13 whiffs since making his major league debut this season.

Tigers 6, White Sox 3

At Chicago, pinch-hitter Scott Sizemore connected for a three-run homer in the eighth inning to lift Justin Verlander and Detroit over Chicago.

Chicago lost its fifth in a row.

Verlander (17-8) pitched a six-hitter and struck out eight. He struggled in only one inning, giving up three runs in the fifth.

Sizemore, batting for starting second baseman Will Rhymes, hit a tiebreaking home run with two outs.

Rangers 6, Mariners 1

At Seattle, Cliff Lee shut down his former teammates for eight innings in his first start in Seattle since a July trade.

Lee (12-8) allowed six hits and struck out eight for his second consecutive win after three losses and a no decision. Lee improved to 4-5 with the Rangers as they close in on their first postseason berth since 1999.

Bengie Molina had three hits and two RBIs and Jeff Francoeur hit a two-run double to lead the AL West-leading Rangers.

Seattle's Franklin Gutierrez hit a solo homer in the seventh.

Indians 6 Royals 4

At Kansas City, Missouri, Matt LaPorta's first career grand slam powered Cleveland past Kansas City on a long, stormy night that included four rain delays totaling 3 hours and 40 minutes.

LaPorta's grand slam off Sean O'Sullivan (2-6) gave Cleveland a 5-0 lead in the fourth. Then Jai Miller and Mike Aviles hit two-run homers for Kansas City in the fifth off Justin Germano.

The rain delay in the top of the fourth lasted only 2 minutes. The stoppage after the sixth was 1 hour, 39 minutes.

Rockies 12, Dodgers 2

At Los Angeles, Troy Tulowitzki hit two more home runs to equal a modern major league record with 14 shots in a 15-game stretch as the Colorado Rockies kept up their playoff push by routing the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Tulowitzki hit a two-run homer in the first inning, doubled in the third and added another two-run homer in the fifth against rookie John Ely (4-8). Tulowitzki fouled out with the bases loaded in the eighth, but Melvin Mora hit a grand slam later in the inning.

Tulowitzki joined Albert Belle (1995) and Barry Bonds (2001) as the only players since 1900 to homer 14 times in a span of 15 games.

Jhoulys Chacin (9-9) threw 111 pitches over eight innings and was pulled three outs shy of his first big league shutout and complete game.

Brewers 2, Giants 1

At San Francisco, Yovani Gallardo struck out six batters in seven innings as Milwaukee knocked San Francisco out of first place in the National League West.

San Francisco fell a half-game back of San Diego after the Padres won 8-4 at St. Louis. San Francisco dropped two games behind Atlanta in the NL wild-card race.

Jonathan Lucroy hit a two-run single in the fourth inning that held up for Gallardo (13-7). The right-hander matched his career high for wins also done last year. Gallardo outpitched Tim Lincecum (14-10).

Giants manager Bruce Bochy pulled his ace after five innings and a season-low 72 pitches. San Francisco trailed 2-0 when Lincecum left.

Reds 11, Astros 1

At Houston, Jay Bruce, Jim Edmonds and Drew Stubbs hit home runs as Cincinnati beat Houston to increase its lead in the NL Central.

The Reds opened a seven-game edge over second-place St. Louis. Cincinnati stopped a six-game road losing streak.

Bronson Arroyo (16-10) pitched four-hit ball for six innings, striking out five and walking one.

Bruce's two-run homer highlighted a four-run fifth as the Reds took a 7-1 lead. Joey Votto started the inning with a double and Bruce connected one out later off Nelson Figueroa (5-3) for his 21st home run.

Phillies 5, Nationals 2

At Philadelphia, Ryan Howard hit a two-run homer to lead Philadelphia past Washington for its sixth straight victory.

Jayson Werth and Raul Ibanez also homered for Philadelphia, which maintained a three-game lead over the Atlanta Braves in the NL East.

Howard's drive in the third gave him his fifth straight seasons with at least 30 homers and 100 RBIs, setting a new franchise record previously held by Hall of Famer Chuck Klein.

Kyle Kendrick (10-9) gave up two runs and six hits in six innings. He struck out three and walked one.

Braves 4, Mets 2

At New York, Tim Hudson snapped a three-start losing streak and Nate McLouth homered and drove in two runs, giving Atlanta's playoff push another boost with a win over New York.

Holding a slim lead in the NL wild-card race, the Braves got a two-run double from Alex Gonzalez and won their second straight game at Citi Field after consecutive losses to last-place Washington.

Billy Wagner struck out all three batters in the ninth against his former team for his second save of the series and 35th this year.

Hudson (16-8) allowed solo homers to Jose Reyes and Luis Hernandez, who connected one pitch after breaking a bone in his right foot on a foul ball.

Padres 8, Cardinals 4

At St. Louis, Ryan Ludwick snapped a ninth-inning tie with a three-run homer to help San Diego beat his old team and end an 11-game losing streak in St. Louis.

Will Venable and David Eckstein had three hits and an RBI apiece for the Padres, who snapped a three-game skid overall and began the day a half-game behind San Francisco in the NL West. They remained 1 1/2 games behind Atlanta for the wild card.

Ludwick and Matt Stairs hit back-to-back homers off Kyle McClellan (1-4).

Mike Adams (4-1) was the winner.

Cubs 5, Marlins 3

At Miami, Marlon Byrd drove in two runs and Casey Coleman pitched six solid innings as Chicago won its season-high fifth straight game.

Aramis Ramirez and Blake DeWitt also drove in a run for the Cubs.

Carlos Marmol pitched a scoreless ninth to earn his 33rd save in 38 opportunities.

Marlins rookie Logan Morrison had three hits to extend his streak of reaching base to 37 games, tying Cliff Floyd for the third-longest string in franchise history.

Coleman (2-2) allowed three runs and five hits. He struck out five and walked four.

Pirates 9, Diamondbacks 6

At Pittsburgh, John Bowker and Andrew McCutchen each hit two-run homers, and James McDonald extended his scoreless-innings streak to 20 innings before giving up two runs as Pittsburgh beat Arizona.

Ryan Church hit a three-run homer and Kelly Johnson also connected for Arizona, which has lost 11 of 14 and assured itself of its second consecutive last-place finish in the NL West.

McDonald (4-5) improved to 4-1 at home with Pittsburgh and 4-4 overall since joining the Pirates in a trade with the Dodgers.

Barry Enright (6-5) allowed six runs on six hits and three walks in 3 2-3 innings.

Close wins for Hi-5, Sparks

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hi-5 defeated a depleted Saina squad last Friday, 55-51, while the Sparks edged out the Ol'Aces, 56-55, on Thursday as the 18th Annual Rotary Club Youth Basketball League completed its first week of action at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Hi-5 gunner Ezra Caro scored 10 of his team's 12 points in the opening quarter, but Saina remained afloat, trailing by only one 11-12. Then in the second quarter, Hi-5's Nikko Salem also collected 10 markers to help extend his team's lead to 28-21 at halftime.

Saina, playing with a five-player skeleton crew, fought hard to make it a three-point game, 34-37, going into the last quarter. Pedro Castro took over in the third period for Saina, knocking in nine points and matching Hi-5's total output in that quarter.

With the game still close, the fourth period was anybody's game as there were several lead changes. However, Hi-5 played steady in the homestretch, getting timely baskets from Caro, Salem, and Franklin Macahito. In contrast, Saina panicked a bit, as it had no other option on offense with only five players available for the game.

Caro paced Hi-5 with 18 points, while Salem and Macahito chipped 12 and 10, respectively.

Sparks 56, Ol'Aces 55

In Thursday's game, the Sparks leaned on Ichitaro Faisao and Sahj Hossain in the fourth quarter to escape with a one-point win.

Faisao and Hossain tallied six points apiece in the final canto to hand the Ol'Aces a losing debut.

The Ol'Aces were ahead, 43-38, at the end of the third period, but scored only 12 in the final canto and failed to neutralize the Sparks' 1-2 punch to lose the lead and the win.

The Sparks got off to a good start, sharing the ball well and taking a four-point lead in the first period, 16-12. It was the Ol'Aces' turn to play unselfish basketball in the second quarter and it helped the team tie the game at the break, 28-all.

In the third quarter, the Ol'Aces finally grabbed the lead, as their defense held the Sparks to 11 points.

However, the Sparks' Faisao and Hossain began to eat up the Ol'Aces' defense in the fourth to regain the driver's seat and win their first game of the season.

Hi-5's Franklin Macahito shows some hang time while pulling up for a jumper during their game against Saina in the Rotary U19 caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.
WALTER SUTHERLAND

Faisao led all scorers with 17 points, while Hossain and Eugene Manglona chipped in 12 and 10, respectively.

Thursday's Game

Sparks – Faisao 17, Hossain 12, E. Manglona10, Mettao 6, Norita 4, M. Manglona 4, Aulerio 2.

Ol'Aces – Ogumoro 11, Webb 11, Maratita 10, Taylor 8, Deleon 4, Rangamar 2, Ichihara 3, Lisua 3, Dillay 2, Kautz 1

Scoring by quarters: 16-13, 28-28, 39-43, 56-55.

Friday's Game

Hi-5 55 – Caro 18, Salem 12, F. Macahito 10, Urbano 2, Dautin 7, Rollon 4, Iglesias 2

Saina 51– Castro 22, Ferrer 15, Saturno 12, Norita 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-11, 28-21, 37-34, 55-51.

ARMATECH

From Page 28

and De Vero with the latter going over the back of the former and trying to hook the ball out. De Vero partially had a hand on the ball, but when he tapped it out, it went to the wrong hands—Esdrelon's.

Esdrelon picked up the loose ball, pulled up for a 10-footer from the baseline, and made the shot. Incidentally, it was also Esdrelon who drilled two free throws that initially gave Armatech an 80-79 win over MBI in their semis game on Sept. 12.

MBI-Right Guard coach Kitz Barja lodged a protest after regulation, contesting that there was an error in recording the scores in the final minute of the match. When committee members reviewed the scores sheet, they found out that one free throw was inadvertently credited to Armatech.

The committee upheld MBI's protest and decided to let the two semifinalists duel for five more minutes with the game tied at 79-all.

The match resumed yesterday with both MBI and Armatech playing with depleted lineups. MBI was down to five players, while Armatech had six.

Pete Iguel started the overtime with a triple, but after his shot, MBI went scoreless for more than three minutes, shifting momentum to Armatech.

Esdrelon recorded Armatech's first basket in the extra period, while Peter Mendiola scored four straight points to put the team on top.

An Iguel layup at the 1:33 mark broke MBI's silence and he tied the match at 87-all, after drilling another long triple.

The ensuing plays saw MBI and Armatech trade errors with the latter committing the last one and allowing De Vero to drive to the basket and draw a foul on Guiab. De Vero's first free throw rolled out of the rim, but his second hit nothing but the bottom of the game, giving MBI the lead before Esdrelon came to Armatech's rescue again.

MBI pulled up for the final attempt of the game with De Vero passing two Armatech defenders after slighting bumping into them. However when he got momentarily free for a fallaway jumper, Schuler stepped in for help defense and blocked the shot. Armatech got the ball and wasted the remaining time, as MBI did not attempt to foul to stop the clock and instead its players looked at the referees, asking for a foul on De Vero's previous shot.

Esdrelon top-scored for Armatech with 29 points, while Mendiola added 27. Iguel led MBI with 30 markers.

Armatech will face Mobil in the one-game finals on Sunday at 1:30pm, while MBI will battle Marianas Wireless in the consolation match at 11am.

Armatech 89 – Esdrelon 29, Mendiola 27, Guiab 10, Manibusan 10, M. Capalad 5, Talania 4, Schuler 2.

MBI Right Guard 88 – Iguel 30, D. Barbo 15, Yabut 14, De Vero 12, Muleta 9, David 3, Rebuyon 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-26, 38-45, 59-62, 79-79, 89-88.

ROGOLIFOI

From Page 28

Baseball Confederation of Oceania Regional Training Center had in Guam this past July. The players are really having a good time out there, I just wish we had more time because we went over a lot of material at the Guam RTC," said Rogolifoi.

Last Saturday, the clinic began with running, arm and body stretching exercises, and proper warm up throwing procedures. The players also practiced base running drills and went over what to do during real-game base running situations. They worked on getting better lead offs and became more aware of the pitcher's actions on the rubber. Then players took the infield to work on charging the ball and executing throws to all the bases. Players worked on developing quicker throwing releases and fine-tuned their follow through after throws.

In addition to making live plays, Rogolifoi stressed the importance of communication between teammates out in field. He wanted position players to know where they are on the field at all times. For example, catchers are to know where the plate is even if they have to turn around and chase down a passed ball or wild pitch. Pitchers and catchers must work together during a situation like this to improve their chances of saving a run at home plate. Catchers have to trust that pitchers will be in position at home to cover the plate and are trained to sprint for the ball and immediately throw it back for the tag. While chasing the ball the pitcher is supposed to talk to his catcher and assure him that a play is still alive.

Another example includes communication between the outfield, shortstop, and second base. When a base hit flies to the outfield, the cut off man should already be on the move out into the grass. While on the run the cut off man must listen to whoever is at second base so that everyone is lined up when the relay throw comes into the infield. The cut off man has to listen to see if the play is going to third or home as well and must also be informed by the second baseman whether to cut the throw off or let it go. It is the player covering the bag's responsibility to communicate with the cut off man and it is the cutoff man's responsibility to trust him and listen.

Other drills conducted included pitchers practicing their pick off throws to second base. Pick off moves to the other bases will be covered next week.

In the first clinic held on Sept. 11, 2010, players focused primarily on batting and warm up techniques due to poor playing conditions on the field. Next Saturday, Sept., 25 from 9am to 12pm, players will get to both swing the bats and take the field in addition to some bullpen work with the pitchers and catchers. All players age 13-19 are welcome to participate given that they show up on time and bring with them all of their baseball equipment.

WOOD

From Page 28

ing exercise. I thought it will be very hard, but it was not. I had a pretty good experience in my first time of doing Leapfrog," said Cooke, who started the race at Paupau Beach on his bike.

"I will do it again next year if given another chance," said Wood, who finished the race, sprinting to the finish line at Paupau and clocking in at 39 minutes and three seconds, less than a minute behind biker Cooke (38:31).

The tandem of Cooke and Wood stole the win from the race's early favorites Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel and Florence Antonio, who were ahead of the pack and were two cones away from the finish line when a bad break hit them.

Cones were placed in each of the nine stops of the race from Paupau Beach to Banzai Cliff with each stop having an approximate distance of 1/2 miles. After each cone, teammates traded places, with one doing the run and the other riding the bike.

Kabiriel was having his turn on the bike near the Last Command Post when the bike's chain broke. Antonio ended up helping Kabiriel finished his ride, pushing the bike and the duo settled for third place with the former reaching the finish line at 41:45. Kabiriel arrived at the finish line with his broken bike at 40:59.

Gary Bandoja and Nap Dizon came in at second with the former completing the race in 39:39. Dizon was the first biker to make it to Paupau Beach, clocking in at 38:15.

Cooke was second, but they still won the race, as the much taller Wood outsprinted Bandoja entering the Paupau Beach compound.

"Our strategy was for me to start the race and then Ben will do the run, as he runs faster than me. It worked and we won after a bad break caught the early leaders," Cooke said.

Other finishers of the Safety First-sponsored race and their times in parenthesis were Caesar Danao and Alex Racoma (41:30); Fred Camacho and Rene Calage (44:52); Austin Kosam and Vinnie Inos (43:55); Mamiko Oshima-Berger and Joshua Berger (46:14); Heather Kennedy and Tina Goodwin (48:25); John Jenkins and Butch Sublemente (49:58); Kanae Quinn and Anastasia Panchenko (52:15); Brad Ruszala and Cathy Pagapular (56:34); and Juanita Fajardo and Adam Sablan (1:12:28).

ROTA

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type has an 8-hour time limit.

Registration fees are as follows: A-type Solo Triathlon for all 3 events is $80, B-type Solo Triathlon for all 3 events is $100, and A-type Team Triathlon is $70/person for two or three persons. The entry fee includes an event T-shirt, high-quality swim cap, the awards banquet, and a guaranteed great time.

Pre-registration will take place on Nov. 12, from 11am to 12:30pm at the Bay Breeze Restaurant & Bar. The swim inspection will be held from 1pm to 2:30pm at the East Harbor.

Final registration will take place the same day from 4:30pm to 8pm at the Rota Resort & Country Club, with the pre-race briefing for all participants held at the same venue from 6pm to 7:30pm.

Starting time is 6:30am at Rota's East Harbor. Wetsuits are permitted, and bike helmets are required. The awards banquet will be held on race day at 6:30pm at the Chamorro Village.

Kiyokazu Fitness Club of Japan president Kiyokazu Onishi said Japanese athletes are attracted to the event for a number of reasons.

"We find the Rota people friendly and beautiful and the food delicious," Onishi said. "Rota's Blue Triathlon is unique in all of Micronesia. We look forward to coming down every year for this wonderful event."

According to Rota Mayor Melchor A. Mendiola, the event benefits everyone in Rota, especially the business community. He is urging the people of Rota to "come out and support it," noting that a majority of the triathletes show interest in returning.

"Participation increases yearly because of the friendly environment the people of Rota create for our visitors," Mendiola said. "Rota is beginning to enjoy some notoriety as a prime travel destination."

The annual triathlon is made possible through the generous assistance of the KFC, Marianas Visitors Authority, the Rota Mayor's Office, and the good people of Rota.

For more information about the Rota Blue Triathlon, contact Frank Tudela of the MVA at 664-3200/01 or ftudela@mymarianas.com, or Sandra Atalig of the MVA Rota Office at 532-0327. ***(PR)***

Weekend Sports

Omega and Alpha

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Last week's headlines were about endings and beginnings.

The 2010 Budweiser Men's Basketball League concluded with the Bud Light CNMI Nationals winning the championship game against Hoegaarden IT&E, 74-68.

The Nationals swept the season, winning all their eight games in the regular season and three in the playoffs. Dan Barcinas of the Nationals went home with the Finals MVP trophy, while Tony Diaz of Becks Sixsevenoh claimed the regular season MVP plum.

With the Budweiser caging ending, it was the Rotary league's turn to see action at the Susupe facility last week.

Rollers I and the G-Stars opened hostilities in the U19 youth caging with the former edging the latter, 56-53. Other winners in the opening week of the Rotary league were the Sonics, Hi-5, Sparks, and Rollers C.

Still in basketball, other leagues on Saipan continued with Pacific Grocers, Buraot, and Ferrera Builders prevailing in the QQ Cup; Island Apparel, NMBA, and MDX/Monster winning in the UFO caging; and Mobil advancing to the finals of the Emon Lodge league.

In tennis, the CNMI will have three junior players competing in off-island tournaments. Christian Miller and Negahr Rastguiy will head to New Zealand in December, while Thea Minor is bound for Australia in January.

Besides having the honor of representing the Commonwealth to off-island events, Rasguiy and Miller also received recognition from NMASA and Tan Siu Lin Foundation. The two netters were name Student Athletes of the Month (July), earning the same title for the second straight month.

In bowling, Robert Talavera, Gina Sablan, and Marion McKenzie ruled Saipan Bowling Association's September roll-offs. Talavera clinched the Budweiser King of the Lanes crown, while Sablan took the Queen of the Lanes tiara. McKenzie secured the Fiji Water Prince of the Lanes title.

In running, Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel topped the men's division of the 5th POWERade Banzai Memorial Half Marathon for the third straight year. In the women's division, Rebecca Reed was a first-time winner.

In the fun run, Michael Mancao won the men's division, while Heather Kennedy reigned in the women' category.

In golf, Steve Balakrishna took the Saipan Golf Association's September Ace, while Ray Tigilau set the score to beat in the Refaluwasch Golf Association's September Ace.

In the 2010 International PIC Point Break Open Japanese and Korean riders outshone local bets.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The CNMI Nationals' Pete Iguel scoops one in against IT&E's Brendon Talania during their title game in the Budweiser caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

WALTER SUTHERLAND
Hi-5's Ezara Caro pulls up for a jumper against a Saina player during their game in the Rotary caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Thea Minor is one of the three CNMI junior tennis players invited to join the Pacific Oceania touring teams that will compete in New Zealand and Australia in December and January.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
NMASA/Tan Siu Lin Foundation Students Athlete of the Month (July) Negahr Rastguiy, left, and Christian Miller join TSL Foundation manager Ed Arriola for a group photo during a brief award presentation last week at the TSL Plaza.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MDX/Monster's Jun Tabora goes up for a shot against Wings Travel's Dante Olivos during their game in the UFO caging at the JP Center Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Michael Mancao nears the finish line in the 5th POWERade Banzai Memorial Half Marathon and Fun Run last week

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Korean rider shows his fancy moves during the 2010 International PIC Point Break Open held at the Pacific Islands Club's Flowrider facility.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Colin Ramsey dives to the water during the 2010 International PIC Point Break Open held at the Pacific Islands Club's Flowrider facility

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Armatech books last finals ticket

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

It seemed the second and last finals berth in the Emon Lodge 179 Freemasonry Inter-Color Basketball League was really meant for Armatech.

A week after its semifinal victory was nullified by a technical error, Armatech still came out the winner against MBI-Right Guard, pulling off an 89-88 triumph in their overtime match yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Elmer Esdrelon sank the winning basket in the last 7.2 seconds of the extension period, while Kirk Schuler made the final defensive stop to secure the victory and move Armatech to the finals against Mobil.

Before Esdrelon's game-saving jumper, MBI held on to a precarious lead, 88-87, after Ivan De Vero split his charity, 22 ticks to go in the game.

Armatech then called a timeout and when the game resumed, Esdrelon almost lost the ball at the sideline near their bench when he fumbled. He recovered and quickly kicked the leather to Brendon Talania, who pulled up for a long jumper and missed.

There was a battle for the loose ball between Junar Guiab

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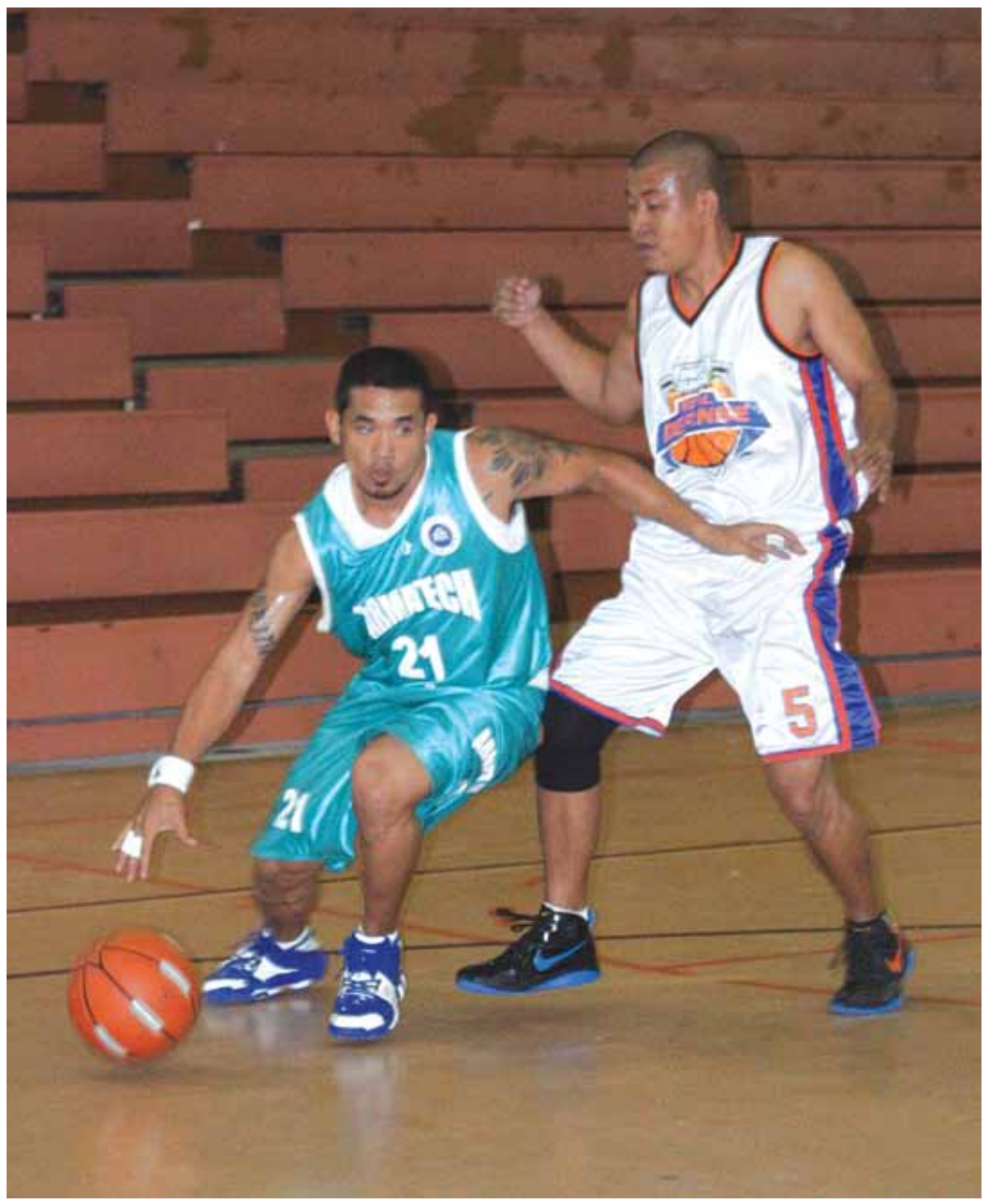

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Armatech's Peter Mendiola, left, dribbles past MBI-Right Guard's Jorge Barbo during the overtime period of their semis game in the Emon Lodge caging yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Rogolifoi enthused with turnout at clinic

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The free youth clinic hosted by Saipan Little League Baseball Association last Saturday was attended by a wide spectrum of local talent from the youngest of Little Leaguers to the experienced like 19-year-old Vince Cepeda.

SLLBA president Tony Rogolifoi was happy with the turnout of 20 ballplayers and plans on splitting the group into two age groups for next Saturday's clinic so that players can practice both batting and fielding simultaneously.

"These clinics are designed to administer the exact same drills that the boys who attended the

See ROGOLIFOI on Page 26

WALTER SUTHERLAND
Clinic instructor Syl Ada, center, observes Vince Cepeda, right, cover the plate as pitchers and catchers practiced situational baseball plays together during last Saturday's free Guam RTC-inspired baseball youth clinic at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Rota Blue Triathlon set for Nov. 13

Triathletes from around the Mariana Islands chain and the region will converge on the archipelago's southernmost island on Nov. 13 as the 17th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon kicks off on the tranquil and beautiful island of Rota.

The annual triathlon will features two distances, an A-type Solo Triathlon including a 1.5-kilometer swim, 40-km biking course, and a 10-km run. The B-type Solo Triathlon will include a 2-km swim, followed by a 90-km rigorous biking course and a 21-km run. There will also be an A-type Team Triathlon. The A-type triathlons have no time limit, while the B-

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Wood, Cooke rule Leapfrog

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Saipan Southern High School duo of Ben Wood and Eric Cooke topped the 3rd Leapfrog Race held yesterday morning, beating 12 other pairs.

Wood and Cooke, who both teach at Southern, won the unique bike and run race in their debut in the Saipan Adventure Sports Club-organized event.

"It was a good early morn-

See WOOD on Page 26

Participants in yesterday's 2010 Leapfrog Race pose for a group photo at Paupau Beach.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Participants start the 1.5-kilometer swim course of last year's 16th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon.